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THURSDAY APRIL 11TH, 2019

Does the Vale get its fair share of funding for education? Turn to page 28.

Bethzienna bows out of The Voice UK in style - turn to page 3.

Merthyr Dyfan Church suffers 'horrendous damage' to wall

BARRY'S ancient and much-loved Merthyr Dyfan Church has suffered "horrendous damage" to one of its churchyard walls which will cost thousands of pounds to repair.

It is one of the most important historical sites in the country – the current church dates back to the year 1200 and was built on what is reputed to be the oldest Christian site in Wales.

Father Robert Parrish told The GEM: "There's horrendous damage to the boundary wall. A certain amount of damage was done on Monday last week, and then on Sunday – some time after late morning – a lot more damage was done with large chunks pulled out.

"There could be more than £4,000 worth of damage. We have a small congregation of 15 people who are not fit, young people and it will be a struggle to fundraise. It's wanton vandalism and very disheartening."

The congregation is already trying to raise funds to replace the church roof.

Father Robert has reported the matter to the police and hopes that one of the many daily dog walkers who use the area may have seen something.

The police have launched an investigation and a spokeswoman said: "We received a report of damage caused to a churchyard wall at St Dyfan and St Teilo's Church, Merthyr Dyfan Road, yesterday, April 8."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Rhws Primary School pupils get creative for Mothering Sunday!

THE children at Rhws Primary school reception classes got busy making beautiful flower bouquets for the ones they love, on Mothering Sunday.

Scraps of material and ribbons kindly donated by Lucinda, a florist in Rhws village, inspired the children to be creative by twisting and tying the remnants into flowers. They had lots of fun while learning to create something unique from bits and bobs others may throw away.

JH

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address, contact telephone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Many thanks to a public-spirited visitor

WHILE walking my dog towards Cwm Bach on March 30, I saw a pile of a dozen black bags and some tyres placed at the sign of the footpath leading down the valley to the cliff.

I met a man coming back from the cliff edge carrying some large, cumbersome pieces of plastic towards the bags. He had been cleaning the beach.

There was more, and he planned on coming back next day. He had climbed the rickety escape ladder, carrying bags and pieces of rigid plastic and two heavy old vehicle tyres. He then planned to carry these back to his car, which was a considerable distance again, over a mile each time.

Thank you to this generous spirited person, who had come down from Gloucester to visit his girlfriend in Bridgend, and thanks to the farm who allowed us to access the piles via their property.

I took six bags to the amenity site and – you guessed it – I had to empty each bag individually to prove they just contained plastic.

While I was emptying the very last bag, a woman dumped perfectly good plastic toddler toys, large plastic storage boxes (charity shops, and women's refuges welcome such donations) into the general waste.

She could have saved herself the climb; there is a ground level bin for large rigid plastic, which she had parked right next to.

Mrs C Jones, Broughton.

'Is Vale Council stuck in past with gender pay gap?' asks reader

I AGREE with Glynis Lloyd (GEM letters April 4).

The Vale Council often does not respond well to residents; it seems stuck in the past and in old ways that no longer work.

Worryingly, the Vale's gender pay gap is 13.9 per cent in favour of men. For every £10 the average male Vale Council worker earns, female workers get £8.61.

Cardiff Council has a 4.7 per cent gap – not good enough, but much lower than the Vale and lower than average.

Rebecca Thomas, Vale of Glamorgan.

The Vale Council responded: Cllr John Thomas, Leader of the Vale Council, said: "These figures do not accurately represent the council's current position as they are based on data that is over a year old.

"Council jobs are subject to job evaluation based on the demands and duties of the role and the salary paid is the same whether a position is filled by a man or woman. The council has moved from a mean gender pay gap of 9.8 per cent in March 2015 to a current mean figure of 8 per cent.

"A comprehensive review of the council's pay structure took place during the last financial year and it is anticipated the median figure for the gender pay gap during 2019/20 will be significantly lower than 13.9 per cent.

"We recently agreed a pay increase for staff across the board, with the lowest paid workers in particular benefiting.

"They now earn a minimum of £9.18 per hour, which is £1.35 higher than the national minimum rate and also exceeds the independently-set Foundation Living Wage.

"It should also be noted that the gouncil's gender pay gap data excludes school-based staff. This may differ to other authorities and have a significant impact on figures."

A small act of kindness made a difference

MY husband and I were unfortunate enough to be in a collision with a lorry on the B4265 on our way into Cardiff on the morning of Thursday, April 4.

Following the accident, we were in a small lay-by on the road between Llantwit Major and St Athan by the airfield, for some hours. I would like to thank the two women who stopped to make sure we were okay, one at the scene and another who stopped in the lay-by, having seen us in our badly-damaged car.

I can't tell you how much these small acts of kindness have helped in what has been a traumatic few days. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, it is good to know that people like you exist.

Mrs Pat Lankshear, Llantwit Major.

'MPs need to listen on assisted dying'

LAST week, the largest-ever assisted dying poll found huge public support across the UK for a change in the law, and at 86 per cent in Wales, it is even higher than the national average.

In these divided times, giving dying people compassion and choice at the end of life is clearly a cause that unites us.

Like many of your readers, I've seen accounts of people travelling to die at Dignitas in Switzerland, and of others whose end of life experiences were in unrelieved severe pain – I believe people need choice through a change in the law.

Unfortunately, MPs are not reflecting the views of their own constituents on this important issue, and this has to change.

If GEM readers have seen a loved one suffer at the end of life, or if they care about how they or their nearest and dearest will die, I urge them to join our local group.

It is crucial that our MPs listen to the people of Wales on this subject and ensure that dying people do not have to suffer against their wishes at the end of life.

Dick Tonkin, Member of Campaign for Dignity In Dying, Cardiff Group

Walking to Barry Island not possible for some…

I READ with interest Ashley Wallace's letter in The GEM last week about walking to Barry Island from the town centre.

It is obviously written by a very fit person who doesn't know about disability.

I, and plenty of others, would love to walk that – or anything like that distance.

Has this person never heard of disabled persons? With walking problems, we need to be able to park near where we want to go.

Which brings me to the point of limited parking times on the Island – would there be any concessions for disabled people?

Anthony Atkins, Sully.

Council tax payers 'ripped off'

HERE we go again; the Vale Council want more money out of us council tax payers – we are to be ripped off and charged to walk the dog.

I, and many others, use Porthkerry and Cosmeston on a daily basis along with Barry Island, so it is going to cost us £4 a day on average for the pleasure, which to many of us is not affordable. Disappointing – but, I suppose, expected from this council.

Brian Hamlin, Barry.

This month is Bowel Cancer Awareness Month

AS a recent bowel cancer survivor I would like to urge your readers to use the bowel screening kit sent from Bowel Cancer Wales if they are eligible regarding age.

Key risk factors typically include people being over 50 but you can never be too young to have bowel cancer. If it's caught in the early stages it can/may be preventable, treatable and curable.

The kit is easy to use, along with further methods of test to find the right way forward with support, understanding, maybe having a life changing operation carried out by wonderful health care professionals.

I have listed symptoms to be aware of:

Blood in your poo, unexplained weight loss, bowel habit changes, tiredness, no energy.

I cannot urge people enough to please, use the bowel screening kit when it's posted in your front door.

Lynne Nesbitt, Barry.

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Plaid in Barry to oppose car parking charges

PLAID Cymru are opposed to plans by the Conservative-run Vale Council to introduce parking charges in Barry Town Centre car parks.

These proposals make no sense – either for the council or for the centre of Barry. The Vale Council's own figures show that two of the town centre car parks (Thompson Street and Kendrick Road) would actually lose money over seven years if they introduced charges, while in total, the other car parks at Wyndham Street and the Court Road multi-storey would make just £11,000 per year.

We all know that Holton Road is in an economically fragile position, with a number of major shop closures in the past year. This plan would do nothing to improve the area.

Holton Road shop owners and staff raised their concerns in the Barry town centre summit, as have local churches and school staff at Holton Primary, while residents are concerned that displaced parking will lead to problems in Holton Road's side-streets.

This is yet another Tory PR blunder that should be scrapped.

Cllr Ian Johnson, Cllr Millie Collins, Plaid Cymru – the Party of Wales.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL APRIL 18)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
11 Thur	10.59	8.8	23.23	8.6
12 Fri	11.56	8.3	-------	----
13 Sat	00.25	8.1	13.12	7.9
14 Sun	01.50	7.7	14.44	7.9
15 Mon	03.22	8.0	16.09	8.2
16 Tues	04.38	8.6	17.16	9.1
17 Wed	05.38	9.3	18.09	9.5
18 Thurs	06.28	9.9	18.55	10.0

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Bethzienna bows out of The Voice UK in style

MORE than four million people tuned in to the final of The Voice UK 2019 on Saturday night featuring four contenders, including Barry's Bethzienna Williams.

Bethzienna had enjoyed a rollercoaster ride to the final which included being saved in the early rounds by Sir Tom Jones and winning the public's 'lifeline' vote.

The four finalists all sang solo and then performed a duet with their star coaches. The eventual winner was Molly Hocking from Cornwall.

Although Bethzienna didn't make the final two there was lots of praise for her performances on the night – including singing the classic 'Don't let me be misunderstood' with Sir Tom. The host Emma Willis told her: "You knock it out of the park every single time."

Sir Tom said: "You did a wonderful job. You're the little Welsh girl knocking down the door. It was great."

Bethzienna said it was "a dream" to sing with Sir Tom again, adding: "It's been a crazy journey for me, but it has shown me you have to keep showing up and giving your best each time. You have got to keep trying."

Bethzienna is a singer and actress and after The Voice UK 2019, one thing is for sure, it's not the last time the public will hear of her.

TC

Bethzienna Williams was praised for her outstanding performances.

Men's Forum learn of 'great escape'

BARRY Men's Forum recently welcomed a retired schoolmaster from Bridgend who spoke on the history of the Island Farm Camp.

The camp was built in the early days of World War Two to accommodate up to 2,000 staff who worked at the largest munitions factory in the UK, on the site now known as Waterton.

Many of the employees were women who preferred to travel from home on a daily basis.

The accommodation was described as 'luxurious' and in 1943, the War Office decided that this under-used facility should be made available for American troops. The camp soon became home to many German and Italian prisoners of war.

The prisoners made two tunnels and some 67 inmates escaped – some made it as far as Castle Bromwich in the east Midlands and Southampton – but all were recaptured.

After this attempt at escape, the War Office decided that only senior ranking officers such as Generals, Field Marshals and Admirals could be housed at the camp, and many of these officers included some of Hitler's closest advisors.

In 2016, archaeologists investigated the site to search for the escape tunnels and one was found in remarkably good condition which still had many of the support timbers.

Barry Men's Forum meet every Thursday at 9.45am in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Aberystwyth Crescent, Barry. New members are always welcome; further information from Mac Tanner on 01446 743455.

PDGG

'Horrendous damage' to church

PICTURE BY GLYN EVANS.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The spokesperson continued: "The damage is believed to have happened on two occasions: sometime on Monday, April 1, and then sometime on Sunday, April 7 to the morning of April 8.

"Anyone with any information is asked to call 101 quoting reference number 1900124844 or alternatively, you can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

***STOP PRESS:** Father Robert contacted The GEM on Wednesday to say there was more vandalism on Tuesday this week, with chunks pulled out of a different section of the wall and out of a stone platform in the churchyard. The church is desperate for information as to who is responsible.*

TC

AM attends WI's coffee morning

ON Saturday, April 6, Vale AM Jane Hutt attended the WI coffee morning and congratulated Dinas Powys Women's Institute for their commitment and community support in their 80th anniversary year.

Ms Hutt said: "It was wonderful to see such a great turnout for the coffee morning, thank you to the Dinas Powys WI for inviting me to such a lovely event"

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A community award for town council

BARRY Town Council attended the annual One Voice Wales Innovative Practice awards on March 28.

The event seeks to share best practice across the town and community council sector through workshops and their annual awards ceremony.

Barry Town Council were awarded Highly Commended in both community engagement and sustainability.

The awards recognised the impact the town council's recent community engagement strategy consultation had, as well as the town council's efforts to engage local businesses through their Small Business Grants to improve sustainability.

Community development officer Robyn Walsh said: "The event was extremely inspiring and it was amazing to see the different projects other town and community councils have been working on.

"The aim of the awards is to share best practice, and I will certainly be bringing some of the ideas back to Barry."

RW

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LOCAL VALE LAW FIRM WINS TOP UK AWARD 'SUCCESS STARTS WITH A GREAT TEAM'

Catherine Hartland & Alexandra Jenkins

Local Barry Law firm attended the prestigious Modern Law Awards in Manchester on Thursday 31January 2019 and were the only law firm from Wales to reach the finals, the only law firm to be finalists in more than 2 awards, and the only law firm to come away with three awards.

Catherine Hartland won Managing Partner of the Year UK

The Firm were runners up in UK: Law Firm of the Year and Business Growth Award UK

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(Left to right): Barry Mayor Cllr Janice Charles, Vale of Glamorgan Mayor Cllr Leighton Rowlands, Rotary president Jill Osborne, catering students from CAVC and Barry Rotary Club secretary Ann Harrhy.

Rotary Club of Barry are well fed by CAVC students

MEMBERS of the Rotary Club of Barry and guests, including the Mayor of Barry, Cllr Janice Charles and the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Cllr Leighton Rowlands, enjoyed an evening dinner prepared and served by the catering students of the Cardiff and Vale College in the Glamorgan Suite of the Colcot Road Campus on April 4.

Speaking after the meal, president Jill Osborne thanked the college students and staff who had contributed to a very successful evening. The club made a donation to the CAVC Students Fund as part of their ongoing commitment to 'Youth in our Community'.

The dinner marked the start of a busy season for the Rotary Club of Barry who continue to support the Vale Foodbank each month. Other projects include collecting used stamps for Guide Dogs for the Blind, used spectacles for Vale for Africa and recycling plastic milk bottle tops to raise funds for polio injections as part of Rotary's National campaign, supported by Bill Gates.

The club will be supporting the 10th Barry Brownies and Rainbows on Sunday, April 28, at 3pm on at The Knap with their litter picking afternoon.

Plans are in hand for local underprivileged children to be taken on a day trip in June as part of the Rotary's national 'Kids Out' programme. Detailed plans are also in place for the club's annual charity duck race and fete on Saturday, July 20, in the Knap Gardens.

The Rotary Club of Barry meets weekly in Brynhill Golf Club on Thursdays at 6.30pm. For further information come along and chat to us at The Knap on April 28, contact president elect David Jakeway on 07533 050299 or follow the Rotary Club of Barry on Facebook.

Easter fun day to be held in Victoria Park, Cadoxton

CADOXTON Youth Project and Park Lions FC are holding a Family Easter and Sports Funday at Victoria Park, Cadoxton (CF63 2JS) on Saturday, April 13, from 12 noon to 4pm.

The day will include sporting activities, including football sessions run by Park Lions coaches, and games, colouring in competitons, face painting and fancy dress competitions. All children will receive an Easter egg for taking part.

There will also be raffles and a 'guess the weight of a cake' competition.

There will be hot and cold food and refreshments. All children under 16 years must be accompanied by an responsible adult on the day.

NC

Easter Fun at Penarth Library

THERE'S lots going on at Penarth Library this Easter.

Textile Workshops – help design and create our Penarth Library banner, free drop-in workshops for children aged 7+.

Come along to as many workshops as you like:

April 16 10.30am – 12.30pm; April 17 2pm – 4pm; April 18 10.30am – 12.30pm.

April 23 10.30am – 12.30pm; April 24 2pm – 4pm.

Film Club: April 15 2pm – 4pm, a film for all the family (free). Call 02920 708438 to book your place.

Code Club Easter Special: April 17, 3pm – 4pm free session for children aged 7+; call 02920 708438 to book.

Lego Club: Saturdays April 13, 20 and 27 from 2pm – 3pm; drop-in sessions for the whole family, £1 per child.

Minecraft Easter Specials: April 18 and 25, 10.30am – 12.30pm book a place via Milittlepad.com £8 per session.

Local pupils immerse themselves in a topic

FROM the world of sport to an African adventure, Albert Primary School children have once again immersed themselves in their learning as they get ready for next term.

During the immersion day, the pupils let their imaginations run wild while having new experiences to trigger ideas for lessons. The children had fun dressing up to fit their new themes.

Year-1 were busy venturing deep into the wilderness of their new topic: Into the Woods! A year-1 pupil exclaimed: "My favourite part of today was climbing through the net into our classroom."

While year-1 were exploring the wild, year-2 were running rings around everybody, suiting their topic: The World of Sport. A pupil said: "My favourite part is ALL of it. It was a very good, exciting and fun day!"

Meanwhile in year-3, they were busy being 'urban pioneers' for the day. A pupil said: "My favourite part of today was painting.'

Year-4 were occupied in observing our wonderful land for their new topic: Biomes. A pupil said: "My favourite part of today is dressing up. It feels nice to wear something different." During the day, years 5 and 6 were dashing around the Savanna, because their topic is African Adventure, suiting the year-6 end of year show, which will be The Lion King. A pupil saidd: "It was just all round a very enjoyable day."

Written by the Albert Primary School media monitors.

All invited to the Walk of Witness

ALL are invited to join the Churches of Barry in their Walk of Witness on Friday, April 19.

The walk begins at the Parade Gardens (near the Ship Hotel) at 12 noon. At this the first station 'Jesus is arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane'; after prayers and a hymn we continue up Ship Hill to our second station at Barry Railway Station: 'Jesus is tried by Pontus Pilate'.

The walkers then continue along Broad Street to our third station at AG Adams: 'Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross'.

The wooden cross, made by Barry College, will be carried in the procession to re-enact Christ's carrying of the cross on the way to his crucifixion.

There will be a brief stop at AG Adams' after the devotions, for people to use the toilets and have a glass of water or squash. We then continue along Holton Road to arrive at King Square at about 1.30pm for our fourth and final station (where chairs are available), 'The Crucifixion' with further readings and reflections and a hymn accompanied by the Salvation Army Band.

Father Robert Parrish, team vicar in the Barry ministry area and organiser of the walk said: "Everyone, children and adults, are warmly invited to join the start at the Parade Gardens at 12 noon or to join in anywhere en route."

The walk is being supported by churches of all denominations in Barry and will include children from church Sunday schools and youth clubs.

When the service ends at King Square all are invited to tea/coffee with hot cross buns in the Welsh Tabenacle Church.

SB

FAN members meet the Mothers' Union

THE Mothers' Union, which meets at All Saints' Church Hall, Barry enjoyed a talk and demonstration of a FAN (Friends and Neighbours) meeting last week.

It proved to be a fun and friendly evening with some light-hearted banter along the way.

'Childhood Holidays' was the topic for discussion, when it was agreed that if you lived in Barry, it didn't really matter if you weren't able to go away.

Caroline from FAN was delighted to receive flowers in thanks.

FAN groups welcome everyone, whatever your religion or background. There is no commitment and you don't have to book. We meet to talk about our daily lives and a weekly topic over a free hot drink; there is no charge.

We would like to welcome new people to our Barry groups at Palmerston Community Learning Centre every Monday at 2pm, Golau Caredig, every Tuesday at 10.30am and Barry Library each Wednesday at 11.30am.

For further information, email: caroline-fan2018@gmail.com or call 07880 630553.

CD

Successful spring fair for Age Concern

AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop in Holton Road, Barry held a very successful Spring Fair this week.

The fair was well supported by the community and it was nice to see everyone enjoying it.

It was lovely to see all the tables full, and everyone chatting away over a cuppa and a slice of cake.

The Knit and Natter group that meet at the shop Monday morning had bargains to sell, as well as bargains on the White Elephant stall.

The total amount raised including raffle was £236; thanks to all who supported the event.

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Recognition for Fairtrade achievements in Dinas Powys

WELSH Ministers have recognised the work to promote Fairtrade in Dinas Powys and suggested how Wales could do even more.

Local AM Jane Hutt invited Dinas Powys Primary School, the Community Council and the local Fairtrade group to a breakfast celebration and discussion with Eluned Morgan, the International Relations Minister responsible for Fairtrade.

Head of school, Mrs Thompson, and chair of governors, Jill Davies, reported on the school's Fairtrade campaign. Eluned Morgan committed herself to encouraging more schools to become Fairtrade Schools. She also got behind a campaign to buy Fairtrade Easter Eggs this year.

During Fairtrade Fortnight, the village Fairtrade Group joined forces with the school to host a coffee afternoon and the school choir wowed the crowd with the quality of their singing. The eco-committees of both infant and juniors echoed the importance of Fairtrade through poems.

This year, the focus of Fairtrade Fortnight was on the farmers of Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, where 60 per cent of cocoa is grown. Cathie Jackson, from the Dinas Powys Fairtrade Group, said: "A cocoa farmer in West Africa needs to earn £1.86 a day for a living income. Currently, a farmer in Cote d'Ivoire lives on 74p per day.

"Almost all cocoa farmers in West Africa live in poverty, so it isn't a sustainable livelihood for them. But without them, we wouldn't be able to get the chocolate we love so much."

At the breakfast, Steve Thomas, chair of the community council, spoke of the council's plans to support the renewal of the village's Fairtrade status this summer.

The Fairtrade group are looking to widen the involvement of other villagers as they seek renewal of Fairtrade village status and would welcome volunteers. Email the group at dinaspowysfairtrade@gmail.com or visit them on Twitter or Facebook.

Town council thanks partners for community event award

BRO Radio hosted their inaugural Community Awards on March 30 at Barry Memorial Hall, and Barry Town Council was shortlisted for Community Event of the Year for the annual Santa Fun Run, alongside fellow nominees Llantwit Major Town Pride and the Neil Lewis memorial concert.

Council staff were delighted when the Santa Fun Run was announced as the overall winner.

The 2K Santa Fun Run takes place in December, it brings over 1,000 people to Barry Island, either taking part or as spectators and has been described as a 'big help' to the trade at Barry Island during the winter months.

The event brings many community organisations together and so, Barry Town Council would like to thank the following for their support in making this fantastic event happen: Barry Scouts, Barry First Responders, Barry Coastguards, Marco's Café, O'Shea's Chip Shop, Pets at Home, Barry Round Table, Brawd Health, Bro Radio, Town Mayor's Brass Band, Barry RAF Cadets, Barry Army Cadets, Barry Youth Action, JPL Sounds, Kevin Moore Photography, K9+1 Café, Cadwalladers, the Fairtrade Advisory Committee and Barrybados.

Barry Town Council would also like to thank Bro Radio 98.1FM for organising such a brilliant event and congratulate all the winners and finalists across all the categories.

Chocolat at the Memo

ON Wednesday, April 17 at 7pm there will be a cinematic treat this Easter with a glass of wine, truffles and chocolate fountain at the interval when The Memo will be screening Chocolat (12A) on Wednesday 17 April at 7pm.

Further information and tickets are available from www.memoartscentre.co.uk or contact the box office on 01446 738622.

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Better access planned at Barry train station

THE announcement that there is to be investment at Barry train station to improve access to both platforms has been warmly welcomed by campaigners.

The Ministry of Transport has included the station in a list of improvements that will enable passengers who find the footbridge access a serious obstacle.

Plaid town councillor Nic Hodges said that he was pleased that after years of delay, the Ministry of Transport had accepted the need to help passengers. The current footbridge is steep and causes difficulties for people with limited mobility.

Fellow Plaid councillor Steffan Wiliam claimed the problem should have been resolved some time ago.

Councillors Steffan Wiliam, Shirley Hodges and Nic Hodges at Barry Station.

He explained: "People with walking difficulties have to travel to Barry Docks Station where they can avoid steps."

Cllr Shirley Hodges said parents with small children faced considerable issues, adding: "Plaid now wants to have confirmation of the actual details of the scheme that is proposed and when the work will commence.

"The Barry scheme has been on the back-burner for too long. The town is growing and needs greater investment. Wales is seriously underfunded when it comes to investing in the train services. There must be no further delay."

Council backs down on dog ban for sports pitches

A COUNCIL has been accused of caving in to "arrogant" dog owners for dropping measures which would have seen dogs banned from sports pitches.

The Vale Council has said a blanket ban on sports pitches will not be included in a proposed public spaces protection order (PSPO) aimed at stopping anti-social dog walkers.

Dog walkers would face fines of £100 if they do not pick up their pets' faeces at sports pitches or other public spaces and there would also be seasonal bans on some beaches.

The sports pitch ban was dropped following public opposition as a petition signed by 1,522 people opposed the move, but a consultation answered by 1,763 people found 57 per cent supported the banning of dogs from marked sports pitches.

Cllr Kevin Mahoney told the council's Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on April 4 that a blanket ban of dogs from sports pitches was the authority's "one chance" to deal with the issue of fouling on sports pitches.

He said the "sheer arrogance of people to think they should demand that their dogs can go on sports pitches" is "absolutely disgraceful".

He added: "I've heard people whining they've got nowhere to walk their dog, but that's strange, because I'm a dog owner and I don't have any problem with that. It's impossible to clear the complete amount of faeces left by even those so-called responsible dog owners.

"This authority has admitted year after year it's physically incapable of policing dog fouling. The one chance you have of keeping faeces off sports pitches is having a blanket ban so that if any dog is on there, the owner can be prosecuted.

"Who are these members of the public that have been so indignant and insistent their dogs should be allowed to do this? And who on earth are the Vale cabinet to agree with them and back down in this way?"

"The cabinet are caving in to a bunch of indignant dog owners who, quite frankly, if they can't find anywhere to walk their dog as I do, shouldn't own a dog."

Seasonal bans of dogs from Penarth seafront and The Knap beach are also set to be removed but dog bans will still apply on a seasonal basis at Whitmore Bay, Dunraven Bay and Cwm Colhuw.

Dogs would still be banned from all children's play areas, ecological conservation areas and bowling greens in the Vale, and they would be required to be on leads all year round on the promenade at Whitmore Bay and Penarth seafront and pier.

RSPCA Cymru opposed the sports pitch ban, but agreed it should be an offence for dog owners not to clean up after their pets.

Council leader John Thomas has previously said the council has taken people's views into account and has achieved a "balanced position".

Cllr Lis Burnett told the committee that dog owners had felt victimised by the proposals.

She said: "It was so painful for many members of the public who felt they were earmarked for derision as dog owners or dog walkers. We need to learn from this exercise and understand that consultation is not engagement."

Cllr Steffan William asked if sports pitches could be "fenced off" to prevent dogs walking on them, but the council's operational manager Colin Smith said this "could be quite costly" for the council.

Mr Smith said: "We know the majority of dog owners are responsible and we don't want to limit them from the green spaces the Vale has to offer."

There were also calls for more dog waste bins throughout the Vale at the meeting.

Councillors heard there have been just six prosecutions for dog fouling in the Vale in the past year.

Cardiff council's PSPO against dog fouling has dog owners fined £100 if they are found without bags or the means of picking up after their pets.

Mr Smith said: "The legal team were concerned it wouldn't be lawful. In the law, it doesn't state what you have to use to pick up the dog fouling."

Matt Discombe.
Local democracy reporter

U3A follow the Severn with Rosemary

AT the April meeting of Barry U3A, Rosemary Scaddon took members on a journey following the River Severn from Chepstow to Nash Point.

While Rosemary had herself undertaken the whole journey (not all at once), she suggested that the audience could pick and choose the bits they would like to walk or visit; there is so much to see and do along the way:

• Chepstow has the largest iron bridge in the UK; at Mathern, the Welsh Saint Tewdrig died of his wounds; St Pierre, a Norman settlement and Portskewett, a chief port of Wales in its day.

• Sudbrook was used by the builders of the Severn Railway Tunnel and at Caldicot, a visit to Dewston Gardens is a 'must'. The village of Redwick, almost a mile from the Channel but nevertheless flooded in the great flood of 1606, on to Goldcliff and Magor, with its brewery.

• The Gwent Levels and Newport wetlands to the River Usk with the east and west Lighthouses and Newport, with its iconic transporter bridge.

• Round to Cardiff and Penarth, where the artist Alfred Sisley resided for a while and painted several oil paintings of the area.

• She did not forget Flatholm, where Marconi sent his first message, and Cosmeston and Sully Island. She followed Barry Island around to The Knap and Porthkerry with its 110ft high, 16 arch viaduct, onto Rhoose Point and St Athan, where the Commonwealth Games were held in 1958.

• On to Llantwit Major with St Illtud's Church; Atlantic College at St Donat's until she finally reached the lighthouse at Nash Point, the last one to be manned in Wales.

Rosemary told members that the Romans had called the river 'Sabrina', which is what its Welsh name, Hafren, means.

If you are no longer in full time employment or raising a family, then you are in your third age and new members are very welcome to Barry U3A meetings. The next meeting will be on Monday, May 13 at 2pm in Bethel Baptist Church Hall, Harbour Road, on the roundabout at Park Crescent. Call Christine on 01446 701537 for further information.

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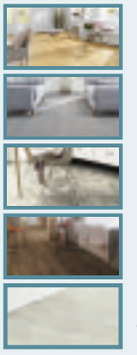

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Coffee morning in Llantwit

THE Mayor of Llantwit Major is holding a coffee morning on April 13 in the Llantonian Hall between 10am and 12pm.

The Ukelastic Band will play and the results of the silent auction will be announced around 11.30am. Just a reminder that bids can be made for the many unique prizes in the auction by downloading a form from the Town Council website and submitting it via e-mail to llantwitmajortc@outlook.com, or by collecting and handing in a hard copy of the form at the Llantwit Major Town Council office at the Town Hall.

Alternatively, bids can be made direct to the Mayor by e-mail on llantwitmajortc@outlook.com. The closing date for online bids will be 4pm on Thursday, April 11 and for hard copy bids 11am at the coffee morning.

Barry Indoor Car Boot sale

WANT to clear out your clutter and make some extra money?

Book a table at the Barry Indoor Car Boot Sale on Saturday, April 27 at the St Francis Millennium Centre on Park Road in Barry.

There's no need to get up early or risk being rained on, just have a clear out, book a table and bring along your unwanted items to the hall.

Tea and coffee available on the day with donations going to Barry Dock RNLI. Sellers can arrive from 8.30am and it is free entry for buyers; call in between 9.30am-11.30am.

Tables are £10 and must be booked and paid for in advance. For further information, email hannah@hicommunications.co.uk, text 07415657661 or search Barry Indoor Car Boot Sale.

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg hosts Urdd Eisteddfod preliminary rounds

Pupils from Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg.

Pupils from Ysgol Sant Curig.

ON a sunny March 29, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg in Barry welcomed pupils from all of its cluster schools to compete in the preliminary rounds of the National Urdd Eisteddfod.

Welsh primary school pupils from all over the Vale took part in the numerous singing and recitation competitions. The winners will go forward to the county round on Saturday, March 30.

Geraint Scott, Urdd development officer for Cardiff and The Vale commented: "It's great to see so many children taking part this year. The standard is high and many competitions have over 40 entrants. It's going to make for an exciting National Eisteddfod which will be held in Cardiff this year – pob lwc."

Senior school pupils will have their chance to compete in the county round on April 5 and 6. Remember to put a note in the diary that the week long National Urdd Eisteddfod will be held in Cardiff Bay on May 26–June 1; entry is free and makes a great day out for all the family.

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Conference brings physicians of Indian origin together

THE City Hall in Cardiff recently hosted a conference organised by the British Association of Physicians of Indian origin, attended by 200 delegates and opened by the Health Minister Vaughan Gething AM through a video message.

Prof. Keshav Singhal MBE.

Dr Hasmukh Shah BEM.

The health minister gave very clear guidance to the local health boards that he wanted to see more candidates from the black and minority ethnic communities at board level in NHS Wales.

Professor Keshav Singhal MBE welcomed the delegates and highlighted the disparity in attainment and the disproportionate referral of BME doctors for disciplinary proceedings. According to some official statistics BME doctors have between 30 to 50 per cent higher chance of being referred to the disciplinary proceedings.

Recognising this in the wake of the case of Dr Hadiza Bawa-Garba, the GMC had commissioned research from Roger Kline, a research fellow at the Middlesex University, the results of which are due to come out in autumn 2019.

Dr Kline has earlier said that white managers have difficulty in having an informal conversation with BAME doctors in the same way in which they will have with a white doctor, which could partially explain the early escalation to a disciplinary process.

The expert panel further discussed this issue and agreed that middle ranking managers need to be trained and sensitised in their dealings with BAME staff.

Dr Hasmukh Shah BEM the secretary of Bapio Wales, expounded on the functions and the role of Bapio and encouraged the delegates to become members. He reaffirmed Bapio's commitment to equality and fairness and expressed the hope that with mutual dialogue Wales will be able to take a leadership role in the world in looking after all its staff.

Over 250 guests from all walks of life including senior politicians, businessman, university professors, doctors and their families and allied medical professionals attended the banquet later that evening which was addressed by the Vale MP Alun Cairns, the keynote speaker, and the First Minister, Mark Drakeford, the chief guest.

Praise from across the board for winners and nominees of Bro Radio's Community Awards

AM congratulates family after posthumous Bro Radio award

JANE Hutt AM congratulated family of the late Cath Watkins BEM for the special recognition award she received at the Bro Radio 10th Anniversary Awards at the Memo.

Cath Watkins was nominated by Jane Hutt and many others for her brilliant voluntary work setting up and running the Vale Homework Club in Rhoose, proving opportunities for children and young people which made a huge difference to their lives.

Jane Hutt said: "I was privileged to know Cath Watkins and see her inspiring work with children and young people making a difference to their lives. She sadly lost her courageous battle against cancer late last year and it has been an honour to pay tribute to her life's work in this way. Thank you Bro Radio."

Vale MP meets sports star at Bro Radio awards

ALUN Cairns MP commented on the Bro Radio awards: "It was a pleasure to attend the Bro Radio Community Awards on their 10th anniversary, where local people were recognised for their excellent contributions to our community.

"I want to pay tribute to the work that they do: whether that's volunteering, looking after vulnerable people or putting Barry on the map through sporting achievement. They all deserve to be celebrated and I'm grateful to Bro Radio for providing this platform."

GVS congratulate all at Bro Radio awards evening

STAFF and trustees of Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) would like to offer their congratulations to all who were nominated, shortlisted and the winners of the awards presented at the Bro Radio Community Awards event on Saturday evening.

Rachel Connor, chief executive officer of GVS, said: "It was a really wonderful event thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended and reflecting the fantastic community activity and spirit of individuals and communities of the Vale of Glamorgan."

GVS was proud to sponsor the Volunteer of the Year Award and would particularly like to congratulate all the nominees and the shortlisted individuals – Nerys Thomas (nominated for her work with Marie Curie), Phil Sedgmond (nominated for his work in Karate and Barry Kyokushin) and of course our truly worthy winner Janet Rees for all her work in setting up and running Cwtch Cymru, a group supporting those experiencing depression and anxiety. Congratulations to you all.

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Cows On Tour launches a 'Grow Your Own' competition

Schools will be decorating their wooden cow planters for the competition.

SCHOOLS and local businesses across south Wales are being encouraged to join forces as part of a competition aimed at igniting children's interest in food and farming.

A 'Wooden Cow – Grow Your Own' competition has been created by the Cows on Tour team, whose core members include local farmers Abi Reader, Chris Hanks and Glamorgan Young Farmers' Club welfare officer, Rebecca Macgregor, as part of a wider drive to help children understand where their food comes from.

The contest will involve local businesses or schools paying £50 to sponsor a model wooden cow that doubles up as a planter, to decorate and grow plants in. Schools are encouraged to send in photo collages of their decorated cow, along with 200 words on their idea.

The winners will be announced at the Royal Welsh Smallholding and Countryside Festival at the Royal Welsh Showground in Llanelwedd on May 18-19, where all collages will be displayed.

The class that wins the competition will get one child ticket per class to attend the Royal Welsh Show, with two further adult tickets for the teacher and teaching assistant of the winning class.

Funds raised through the initiative will support rural farming charities, the DPJ Foundation and RABI.

The fun model cows were created using wood donated by Premier Forest Products and created by members of the South Wales Woodwork Club, who crafted the wooden farm animals free to support the Cows on Tour team.

Wenvoe dairy farmer Abi Reader said: "We are hoping that these wooden cow planters are a fun way to ignite children's interest in farming and where their food comes from. The Cows on Tour team are looking forward to seeing colourful and imaginative decorated cows entered into the 'Wooden Cow – Grow Your Own' competition from schools across Wales. We are very grateful to Premier Forest Products and South Wales Woodwork Club for their support in making this fun idea a reality, as well as supporting good causes in the process."

Those wishing to get involved with the 'Wooden Cow - Grow Your Own' initiative should contact the Cows on Tour team on their Facebook page or email CowonTourfarmers@gmail.com.

DJ

Ramblers step out for a birthday walk on the Gower

PENARTH and District Ramblers celebrated their 26th birthday in style by travelling to the Gower peninsula, initially through thick fog, which dispersed to leave glorious warm sunshine all day.

From Parc le Breos, the group of 19, led by Joy, entered Parkmill and followed the Pennard Pill River through its beautiful valley overlooked by the remains of Pennard Castle.

Clambering up through the dunes, the Wales Coast Path led them above Little Tor Bay, then down through woodland and into Nicholaston Burrows for celebratory goodies baked by Josie.

Making their way across the Nicholaston Pill River via a raised footbridge, the wide open sand on Oxwich Bay beckoned them for the journey to Oxwich village, where they turned inland.

A descent via a sunken path led them by road onto Penrice Estate land with its ruined castle and fine mansion house overlooking splendid parkland, before a climb to the A4118 for the journey to the quiet hamlet of Perriswood.

The last climb led onto the ridgeway of Cefn Bryn with its ponies and trilling skylarks, then downhill to Penmaen to continue through Northill Woods for the short trek past the pretty ford in Parkmill back to the start.

For her first walk as a leader for the group, Alison and her nine companions set off from St Brides Major uphill and across Old Castle Down in lovely sunshine with a cool breeze, before descending into Cwm Alun.

Stepping stones at Pont y Brown led them across the river for morning break after which they journeyed on by road and through fields, dropping downhill through Corntown where Tingle Lane brought them to the historic Ewenny Priory.

Fortunately for the group, the gardens, house and deer park were open to the public and after a quick look around, they moved on to visit the Priory Church dedicated to St Michael before stopping for lunch.

Heading along Corntown Road past the old Baptismal Pool adorned with marsh marigold, they headed uphill on Heol y Cawl and into cropped fields at Corntown Farm and gazing northwards, the gloomy dark clouds were dumping rain on the woodlands and hills of the Ogmore and Garw valleys.

By track and field, they reached the railway line and descended through a field to the clapper bridge over the clear River Alun, glinting in the sunlight.

Some road walking led to Coed y Bwl, renowned for its small wild daffodils in season, then up a track to cropped fields at the rear of Blackhall to join the road that would lead them back down into St Brides.

For up to date information, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or follow on Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

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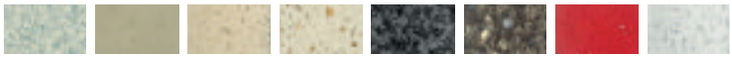

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Vale families say that new M4–A48 link road plans have 'left them in limbo'

FAMILIES left in limbo by plans to build a major new road fear more than a decade of uncertainty as the council is not telling them what the plans mean for their homes.

Campaigners say nine families would be forced to leave their homes if plans for a new link road between the M4 and A48 around the village of Pendoylan go ahead.

Many of the families potentially affected by the plans have lived there for decades and thought they had found their forever homes in the picturesque Ely Valley in the Vale of Glamorgan.

But now they are facing daily anxiety and stress over the future of their homes – because since the council announced the plan more than a year ago it has not told the residents whether it would compulsorily purchase their homes to make way for the road or give them any compensation.

Residents say that it has meant they are unable to sell and move on even if they wanted to as the uncertainty is frightening buyers away.

Residents and campaigners are also questioning whether the road – which the council says will link the M4 with Cardiff Airport – is really needed and claim it would "destroy" the area if it was built.

Concerns have been raised about pollution from the proposed road, which would would pass near to Pendoylan Primary School, and whether the council has seriously considered options to improve the area's infrastructure which don't involve building a new road.

The Vale Council says it's in the early stages of the project and no decision to build the road has been agreed, and there will be further opportunities for residents to air their views.

Anke Weber and Simon Reid moved to their home in Trehedyn Lane nine years ago.

Anke said: "It's very frustrating. It feels very worrying because you don't know what the future is going to hold.

"We feel our property is gradually deteriorating because we're not doing anything to it. All the enthusiasm is being sucked out of us.

"It goes through phases. When I first heard I was really anxious, couldn't sleep, I was upset. Then you go through a phase where you deny it's going to happen. Recently it's flared up again.

"I think this road shouldn't happen at all. We would much rather stay here. I don't feel we need another road."

The Vale Council announced last week it favours a road stretching to the west of Pendoylan, linking junction 34 of the M4 with the A48 south of Sycamore Cross.

The council is also expected to press the case for a new railway station and a park and ride near junction 34 which would link to Cardiff Airport.

In total the airport had almost 1.5m customers in 2017/18.

The council will carry out further studies on the proposal before progressing to a full business case.

Jon and Miranda Williams have lived in their home in Pendoylan for 20 years – but if the road is built it would come within 20m of their house. They say they've also not been told whether the council will buy their house.

Jon said: "We have already been told we can't sell our house. We don't want to move but this takes the choice away from you.

"The idea was this was going to be our forever home and then our son gets it. Now that can't happen."

Miranda added: "We don't understand why a road is necessary. I think the public transport needs to be improved – they should be discouraging more cars.

"It really feels like home. To move for this reason – it's just not needed."

Dorothy Samuel's husband has Alzheimer's disease – and she doesn't know if she'll be able to sell their home of 10 years in Clawdd Coch if she needs to pay for his care.

She said: "They should scrap the road altogether. It would just move the traffic from the motorway onto the A48.

"It's destroying our village."

A council report says the road would offer "potentially substantial benefits in terms of connectivity" to the Vale of Glamorgan.

Paul Waite, who lives in Bryn Bedw, added: "For my wife and I, this is our first home together. Recently newlywed, we have saved hard to buy our dream home and it's devastating that this unnecessary proposal could put our future in limbo for the next five to 10 years."

Campaigners are also concerned a review group to consider the road plans has had no representation from either environment or conservation bodies.

A Vale Council spokesman said: "A WelTAG stage two transport study is currently being undertaken for the M4 junction 34 to A48 transport project. As such no decision to build a new road has been made, neither has a detailed road alignment been agreed. Currently we are very much in the early investigative stages of this project.

"There will be formal statutory processes that will need to be followed if the project progresses beyond this stage two study. These will again enable the views of interested parties and any other relevant factors to be considered before a final decision about whether a road is built is made."

Matt Discombe
Local democracy reporter

Soroptimists welcome new member

President Mary Tornabene, Stephanie and Sian Howells.

THE Barry Soroptimists were happy to welcome a new member, Stephanie Tarling.

Stephanie is from Barry, her family had Greens the jeweller and a bookshop in Barry Dock. She went to Romilly and St Helen's schools and then to the Barry Girls' Grammar school. She worked in Germany before the fall of the Berlin Wall where she met her husband and had two daughters, and she has now decided to come back to her home town of Barry and is active as a volunteer at Dyffryn House.

Stephanie is keen to be a member of the Soroptimists, helping local and national charities.

To find out more about the Soroptimists visitwww.sigbi.org/barryanddistrict.

PACT meetings

GIBBONSDOWN 'Cuppa with a Copper,' is every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry, between 10am and 12 noon.

A 'coffee and chat' PACT will be at ST MARY'S HILL Golf Club at 11am on Tuesday, April 16.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, contact 101 for non emergencies or log onto:www.south-wales.police.uk where you will find contact details for your local PCSO to contact them directly for non emergency matters.

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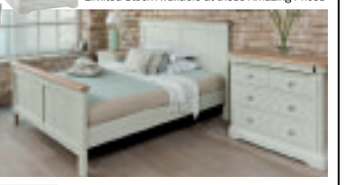

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Textile exhibition in Penarth

AN exhibition by Haf Weighton and Carol Bartlett, two Welsh textile artists, will run from April 12 to May 30, Monday to Sunday from 9am-5pm at the Penarth Pier Pavilion.

The exhibition is entitled 'Adre', which is Welsh for 'Home'.

Haf and Carol work with thread, focussing on the landscape of Penarth, their home town, and the areas of Barry and Cardiff.

Haf's recent work has explored Cardiff's Victorian arcades and the architectural link with Penarth. She uses paint and stitch in her work and has exhibited widely, including the Saatchi Gallery and locally through the Arts Council of Wales.

Carol is the co-owner of fabric shop, Sew Lovely. Inspired by an old photograph, she created a shop front in stitch which developed into a series of stitched pictures based on Victorian and Edwardian photographs and sketches of Penarth. Carol uses collaged fabric with free-motion and hand embroidery and recently exhibited at the London Contemporary Crafts Fair.

There will also be textile art work created by local children on the theme of 'Identity' at the Pier along the upper gallery.

For further information on the exhibition, call Penarth Pier Pavilion on 02920 712100.

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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Share The Load project to improve mental health in rural community

"ONE in four people will suffer a mental health issue in their lifetime, with agriculture carrying one of the highest rates of suicide."

These were the sobering statistics from Emma Picton-Jones, founder of The DPJ Foundation, when she spoke to NFU Cymru staff.

The NFU Cymru team listened avidly as Emma, who recently delivered a full day's mental health training to the team, gave an emotional account of the reason she set up the charity in July 2016 and explained all the great work the foundation had achieved in recent years.

The DPJ Foundation aims to support people in rural communities affected by mental health issues, especially men in the agricultural sector, and aims to break down the stigma that surrounds mental health.

NFU Cymru Head of Operations, Kevin Owen, said: "Farming can be an isolated profession, it's hugely traditional and often carries a resistance towards seeking help. Farmers are at the mercy of the elements and many factors are out of their control. All these issues combined can contribute to depression and anxiety, and if not dealt with, can slowly spiral out of control.

"With this in mind, we organised mental health awareness training as we believe now more than ever we must all be talking about mental health and the many ways that people can seek help – this was the first in a series of training sessions to be rolled out across our network in Wales."

NFU Cymru's message to all is to look out for your family, friends and neighbours and if you notice a change in their personality or appearance, talk to them. Starting up a conversation and listening to their problems is the best way to understand their issues and further assess what support they may wish to access. Farming is one big community – we must all take responsibility in looking out for those in need.

The DPJ Foundation has a campaign, #ShareTheLoad, which aims to raise awareness of their talking therapies and counselling service. This ties in to NFU Mutual's #MindYourHead campaign, which aims to raise awareness of mental health issues within the farming community and to get people talking.

If you, or someone you know, is suffering with poor mental health, call The DPJ Foundation on 0800 5874262 or text 07860 048799 for confidential advice.

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‘Parking charges and school funding on the agenda’

Welsh Secretary **ALUN CAIRNS** reports to GEM readers

FIRSTLY, I want to congratulate everyone at Barry Town United for qualifying for the Europa League and express how proud we all are of their achievements this season. Gavin Chesterfield and his team have done an excellent job and I wish them every success going forward.

On the key issues impacting the Vale, last week the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee discussed the proposal to introduce parking charges. I sent comments to the committee, strongly setting out my opposition to charges. We have learned that the charges would do little in terms of bringing in revenue for the local authority but would present a major challenge to local traders.

Businesses in Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Barry, particularly on Barry Island, have worked hard with the local authority to build a destination for visitors, which attracts people and creates jobs. Barry Island recently featured in the Department for International Trade’s prospectus for investment opportunities at a global summit. We need to continue to embrace opportunities and resist throwing up barriers to investment and progress.

I’m pleased that councillors at the scrutiny meeting listened to our concerns and recommended changes to the proposals. However, readers should note that this is only one step in the process and the fight against parking charges isn’t over yet.

Another matter causing deep concerns to teachers, parents and governors as we enter the new financial year is the underfunding of local schools and the consequences this has on school budgets.

I have serious concerns about the current state of school funding in the Vale by the Welsh Government, which puts the Vale at the bottom of the funding table. That’s why I have written to Jane Hutt AM to ask that she works with me and others on a cross-party approach to tackle this issue.

The Welsh Government’s funding formula works against the Vale, compared with other local authorities in Wales. The data sets that are being used are 20 years old, again prejudicing against the Vale.

I have tried once before to organise a cross-party campaign to the Welsh Government seeking a change. Unfortunately, the response from other political parties at that time was disappointing, to say the least, and the Welsh Government’s reply was that to change the formula, all 22 local authorities would have to agree. Clearly, this is highly unlikely to happen when some would become worse off – even if more equitable.

The Welsh Government also said that they were merely passing on Westminster cuts to schools. This is wholly wrong. Within the first six months of becoming the Secretary of State for Wales, I negotiated a new funding formula with the Treasury and with the Welsh Government. Wales now receives £120 for every £100 spent in England. Mark Drakeford, the then Finance Minister agreed at the time that it was a fair settlement.

In the meantime, this remains an issue and presents a significant challenge to local schools. I will again try to organise a cross party campaign to seek changes and I am hopeful that we can achieve a positive outcome for pupils in the Vale.

Finally, at the end of this month, I’m running my eighth London Marathon to raise funds for Dementia Revolution and Guide Dogs Cymru. Although recent events have meant that I haven’t quite managed to keep training on track, the thought of supporting these charities and the incredible work that they do will no doubt get me over the line.

I’ve been working with both of these incredibly important charities recently and I’m really looking forward to playing a role supporting them.

Please support these excellent causes here: *www.virginmoneygiving.com/aluncairns*

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Shazam is assured, but doesn’t quite have the magic touch...

SCREEN TALK with GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

THE DCEU is starting to lighten up.

While *Wonder Woman* was a step into a brighter future, critically and commercially, *Aquaman*’s sense of fun and scale (and a box office take of over $1 billion) means that the universe seems to be embracing brevity over brutality.

The latest DC film is *Shazam*, which tells the story of Billy Batson (Asher Angel), a foster child who moves into a group foster home and immediately draws the attentions of Freddie Freeman (Jack Dylan Grazer).

When Billy is magically transported from a train carriage to the sanctum of The Wizard (Djimon Hounsou), he is bequeathed powers he can access via the use of a single word – ‘Shazam’ – which turns him into Zachary Levi’s hero with super-strength and the ability to fly, among other things.

Eager to use his skills for good, Billy soon finds himself tested when the dangerous Dr Thaddeus Sivana (Mark Strong) decides he wants Billy’s powers for himself – and will stop at nothing to get them...

Conscious or not, the arrival of *Shazam* is a definite upturn in terms of bringing a sense of fun to the DCEU (there’s no way you can imagine this character, especially as portrayed here, showing up in Zack Snyder’s *Batman vs Superman* for example). But those hoping for a *Wonder Woman* or *Aquaman*-esque upturn in quality will be a little disappointed, as while *Shazam* is certainly no disaster, neither is it a film that resonates.

Much of the problem lies in the dreaded ‘origin story’; never an easy place to start for a filmmaker, and especially when the universe coming to life here is so rich, it struggles often under the weight of its own narrative, and then, when established, doesn’t offer anything particularly original.

While it doesn’t quite play ‘join the dots’, it does use well-worn tropes and uses them without undercutting them.

But its most obvious touchstone lies not in the world of superheroes, but in the world of Tom Hanks 1980s comedies – while comparisons to *Big* are fairly obvious (and, in one scene, riffed on smartly) there is a strong sense of that film being channelled here, which helps to lend it an airy, lighthearted tone in the main.

The casting is pretty spot-on: Asher Angel as the damaged Billy is smart yet emotionally vulnerable, while Jack Dylan Grazer as the superhero-obsessed Freddie (cue plenty of subtle references to DC films of the past) is smart-mouthed and immensely likeable.

It hangs on the performance of Zachary Levi, however, whose man-child in a cape is wonderfully realised. Levi has smart comic timing and convinces that, while he has the body of an Olympian, he has the mindset of a teenager.

The performances around them are all likeable enough, but Mark Strong’s villainous Sivana doesn’t really connect. The story at least tries to give him a backstory that funnels his modern-day motivations but, along with his CGI sidekicks, not even an actor as skilled in onscreen villainy as Strong (his second DC villain after playing Sinestro in 2011’s unconnected *Green Lantern*) can convince.

Having built his reputation in the horror genre, David F Sandberg may seem like an out-of-the-box choice to helm a lighthearted superhero film, but he shows a steady and assured hand. There are moments where his horror past comes out to play (a boardroom sequence is chilling, even with a 12A rating), but he seems to relish playing in this world and does a decent, if unspectacular, job.

What it lacks is that extra bit of excitement: that magic dust that makes the ordinary extraordinary; the character of Shazam is one that is extremely interesting, and, should they make further films, there is plenty of potential there – however, for his debut outing, he’s just a little too ordinary.

VERDICT: Another DC hero makes his big-screen bow, and while lacking the elegant poise of *Wonder Woman* or the underwater craziness of *Aquaman, Shazam* offers a steady and assured debut. David F Sandberg’s direction ticks the boxes and the cast are all superb company, but it lacks that magic touch to lift it to another level. *Enjoyable*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Green Lantern* (2011), *Aquaman* (2018)..

15 years of fun for food festival!

FOOD and drink heaven for festival goers, the bustling, vibrant atmosphere that is the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival will this year celebrate its 15th birthday, with lots of new and exciting additions planned to mark the occasion in style!

A real highlight in the Welsh foodie calendar, this year’s event will for the first time play host to its own Vegan Festival – food, drink, cosmetics and clothes, and all included in the festival ticket price.

It promises to be a whole weekend of foodie, family-friendly fun with over 100 exhibitors and three key sites allow something for all.

Free children’s activities – from willow weaving to pizza making and ‘have a go’ ceramics in the Old Hall, food demonstrations, TV chefs, tempting tastings, music and dancing; this is a food festival, but far more than just a food festival.

It takes place on May 26-27 and tickets are £5 (ticket) and £8 (weekend). For further information and to book tickets, visit www.cowbridgefoodanddrink.org.

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Does your waste and recycling collection day fall on the Easter Bank Holiday?

Please don’t forget to place out your waste and recycling as normal this **Good Friday** and **Easter Monday** for collection*.

Recycling

- **Easter egg packaging, including card, plastic and foil can be placed in your green box/blue bag.**
- **All your food leftovers including vegetable peelings and chocolate! Can go in your food waste bin.**

*please remember the only exception to the 2 black bag limit per household is Christmas and New Year

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What's on, and where in your area?

Care & Repair

CARE & Repair Cardiff and the Vale, your local charity for older people assisting with repairs, adaptations and maintenance will be at Penarth Library between 10am-12 noon on Thursday, April 11.

If you are a homeowner with a housing issue, come along!

Book sale

LLANTWIT Major and Cowbridge Lions Club will be holding a used book sale on Saturday, April 13, from 10am to 3pm outside Caffe Nero, Waitrose car park, Cowbridge. All proceeds to support the work of Lions; all welcome to browse.

Spring table top sale

A TABLE Top Sale in Peterston-Super-Ely church and community hall will take place on Saturday, April 13 from 10am - 12pm.

Entry is free and we usually have a wide range of stalls from bric-a-brac (gems from spring cleaning), to toys and some craft stalls. To book a table and for further details, call Pat on 01446 760267.

This is in addition to the usual village market held on the second Saturday of every month from 10am – 12pm, selling delicious homemade cakes, preserves, produce, plants and a very extensive collection of books. Freshly brewed Fairtrade coffee and tea are served. All proceeds go towards the improvement and maintenance of the hall.

Easter cake sale

FRIENDS of Penarth Library will hold an Easter cake sale and drop-in children's craft session with local artist Mari Wirth at the library in Stanwell Road on Saturday, April 13 between 10am and 1pm.

Brexit meeting

VALE MP Alun Cairns will hold another Brexit meeting this weekend.

It will take place on Saturday, April 13 from 11am – 12:30pm at Barry Town FC, Jenner Park Stadium, Barry Road, Barry CF62 9BG. All Vale of Glamorgan constituents are welcome. Please email *alun.cairns.mp@parliament.uk* to register attendance.

Neighbourhood Watch AGM

Highlight Park Community Neighbourhood Watch group is holding its annual general meeting on April 15, at 7pm.

The guest speakers will be PC Bleddyn Jones, Neighbourhood Beat Manager and PCSO Russell Evans. The topic will be local crime issues, and also raising awareness of the threat to young people and vulnerable adults of being coerced or forced into criminal activities.

VOG Fire & Security will also attend, offering advice on safety and protection systems for the home.

Care and Repair

IF you are you a homeowner or private tenant living in the Vale, perhaps elderly or disabled and in need of advice or support on repairs or home improvements, Care and Repair Cardiff and Vale can help.

They give advice on grants available and information on reputable companies to use. Care and Repair will hold a session at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, April 16 from 10am to 12pm; no appointment is needed, just drop in. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

Free legal advice

AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a legal session at their Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, April 16 from 10am to 12pm.

If you are over 50, maybe worried about making a Will, arranging Power of Attorney or Living Will for example, you can chat to a legal team based in Barry.

No appointment is needed, just come along; call 01446 732385 for further information.

Cowbridge U3A History Group

THE next Cowbridge U3A History Group meeting will be a talk entitled 'The Medieval Cult of St Christopher' by Professor Madeleine Gray at 10pm on Thursday, April 18 in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Visitors welcome; there is a small fee. See *www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge* for further information.

Barry War Museum's Book Fest

BARRY War Museum will host a Book Fest on Easter Saturday, April 20, bringing together local authors, publishers, scriptwriters and an award-winning film maker at this free event.

Do you enjoy ghost stories or science fiction – or prefer to lose yourself in a romantic novel? Writers of thrillers, comedy, horror and local interest will all be on hand; renowned military historians will attend with their published works on World War One and World War Two - true stories of local lads who went to war.

There will be children's authors too – all happening from 11am – 3.30pm on Easter Saturday at The Old Railway Station, Barry Island. The steam or vintage trains will be running, the café is open for refreshments and Barry War Museum will be open from 11am to 3.30pm over all four days of the Easter weekend. Free entrance every day.

New Life Church Easter egg hunt

ON Sunday, April 21 (Easter sunday) at New Life Church, Barry Island ,from 11am an Easter service will be held – all welcome!

An Easter egg hunt will take place on the beach.

Easter egg hunt

LLANTWIT Major Surf Lifesaving Club is holding an event on Monday, April 22, at 11am at the beach lifeguard hut on Llantwit Major Beach.

There will be an Easter egg hunt, face painting, a 'name the bunny' competition, bacon baps, cakes and hot drinks.

Epilepsy support

EPILEPSY Wales run a monthly outreach support group at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop in Holton Road, Barry.

This will be held on Thursday, April 25 ,from 10.30am to 12pm. Health care professional Lesley Williams from Epilepsy Wales will be in attendance: find out what is available in your area – support groups and advice. No appointment is needed, just come along. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

A Wartime Childhood

RHOOSE and District History Society is hosting a talk by Mr John Sheen whose topic is 'Five Boys and a Pasty (memories of a wartime childhood)'.

It takes place on Friday, April 26, at 7.30pm at Rhoose Community Centre. Adults £1 and children 50p.

The Bath trip is back!

THE trip to Bath (fondly known as 'The Trip'), is back by popular demand on Saturday, May 18, leaving Llantwit Major at 9am and Bath at 5pm, and will cost £20. For tickets, *email julieleah3@hotmail.com* or call 07780 475877.

The money raised will go towards the Llantwit Major Christmas committee. A Cowbridge pick up is possible, depending on numbers; and raffle prizes would also be welcome.

Diabetes event

ROB Lee from Diabetes UK will give a talk: 'What Is Your Experience of Diabetes Services?' on Tuesday, May 21 in the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth from 7.30pm-9pm; everyone welcome.

PACT meetings

Newton PACT at Newton School Rooms, Newton on Tuesday, April 23 at 6.30pm.

Litchard, Pendre and Coity PACT at Litchard Mission, Litchard on Thursday, April 25 at 7pm.

Oldcastle PACT at the Library, Brynteg Comprehensive School on Thursday, May 2 at 6pm.

Morfa town PACT at Penybont Junior School, Minerva Street, Bridgend on Thursday, May 9 at 6pm.

FONMON CASTLE
Easter at Fonmon Castle
18th - 22nd April, 10:30am - 4pm

Take a tour of our beautiful Castle* Visit our stunning Gardens
Free children's entertainment including:
Easter egg hunt & stamp trail
Meet some Easter bunnies & chicks
Come and meet our friendly Dinosaur
New children's sand play area
Visit our Facebook page for more information
*Please note: Charges apply for car parking & castle tours
Fonmon, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3ZN
Tel: 0144 710 206 E-mail: info@fonmoncastle.com
Find us on:

Bethel Baptist Church
Harbour Road, CF62 5SA
Warmly invites you to:
The best news you could even hear this: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life!"

Family Fun Afternoon
Sat. 13th April, 4-6pm
Crafts, Fun, Bible talk and food
Good Friday Service
Fri. 19th April, 10:30am
Followed by tea/coffee & hot cross buns
Easter Coffee Morning
Weds. 17th April 10.30am
Followed by tea/coffee & hot cross buns
Easter All-age Service
Sun. 21st April 10:30am
Followed by tea/coffee & hot cross buns

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Happy Easter
High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St
Welcome BARRY You
Happy Easter

High Street delivers the 'feelgood factor'

WHAT makes Barry's High Street Shopping Quarter extra special? Well, in a nutshell, the feelgood factor.

Whenever you visit the businesses there, they bristle with energy and enthusiasm. You are guaranteed a warm welcome and a personal service.

In High Street, Broad Street, Island Road and Market Street, there's a huge range of independent businesses from jewellers and toy shops to florists and gift shops.

The traders have always been keen to put something back into the community, organising regular Christmas, Easter and summer events which draw thousands of people.

No wonder High Street was once voted in the top five independent shopping areas of the UK.

In fact, local traders picked up another well-deserved award last week.

They won the Bro Radio 'Making a Difference Through Business Award,' sponsored by the Glamorgan GEM!

Former chairman of High Street Traders, Tony Hopkins, who was on hand to receive the award, said: "I still can't believe we won. To be nominated for the award was an honour itself but to win is just amazing.

"High Street has always had strong ties with the local community because most of the shop owners live in Barry so the events that we hold are our way of giving something back to our community.

"Planning and holding these events takes a lot of time and effort but seeing the crowds they attract and the happy smiling faces on the day makes all of the hard work worthwhile.

"Winning the award shows our efforts are appreciated and as long as the people want events in High Street, we'll keep on holding them.

"Thank you to everyone who nominated and voted for us, we really are proud to have won."

High Street Traders were thrilled to win the Bro Radio 'Making a Difference Through Business Award' sponsored by the Glamorgan GEM.

Shahi Noor celebrates its 30th birthday!

THE popular restaurant and takeaway Shahi Noor, renowned for its Indian dishes, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

Owner Mr Rahman said its enduring appeal was because it offered exceptional variety and the highest quality Indian cuisine.

He said: "Our aim is to bring together the best dishes from the Indian sub-continent, cooked by our team of top chefs.

"We are passionate about great food and we want our customers to enjoy the highest quality and the most delicious authentic dishes. At Shahi Noor you can enjoy biriyani, balti, chef special dishes, prawns, korahi specials, Persian dishes, vegetable dishes and many more."

Bookings can be made by calling 01446 735706 or 732338. To view the full menu, go to *www.shahinoor.co.uk*

SHAHI·NOOR
DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE
Charges may apply
Fully Licensed Restaurant & Takeaway
Established Since 1989
Celebrating our 30th Anniversary
Mr Rahman and staff would like to thank their loyal customers for their continued support and wish them a
Happy Easter.
Check out our website for full menu
www.shahinoor.co.uk
Open: Sun to Thurs
5.30pm - 11.30pm
Fri & Sat 5.30pm - 12.30am.
Closed Tuesday.
OPEN BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
01446 735706 / 732338
Book your table through text message: 07882 398512
87 High Street, Barry, CF62 7DX

Vintage coffee shop is the ideal place for a break

Afternoon tea is a speciality at The Grind House.

AFTER your Easter shopping in High Street, why not meet up with friends for coffee and cake or lunch and a glass of wine?

The Grind House is a lovely vintage coffee shop offering freshly brewed coffee and tea, fresh cakes and pastries, or a Welsh breakfast, with locally produced homemade sausages, and is served all day.

Lunchtimes include freshly made paninis, baguettes, jacket potatoes or home cooked honey roast ham and chips.

Treat yourselves to an afternoon tea with sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted cream, homemade cupcakes, coconut macaroons and crisps, and unlimited tea or coffee; or celebrate a special occasion with a bottle of Prosecco.

The Grind House is also available for baby showers and other celebrations.

The GRIND HOUSE Est 2016
Coffee, Food & Mood
Enjoy our afternoon tea!
A Happy Easter to all our customers
86 High Street, Barry
01446 679 768

Vinylize will supply your printed clothing

Tony Peters prints designs on clothing and produces posters for clients.

TONY Peters began his Vinylize business from home and now has a large showroom on Broad Street.

He's the go-to man for dozens of companies and clubs in the Vale, supplying all sorts of clothing with an embroidered or printed finish.

He told The GEM: "We print designs on all sorts of clothing such as t-shirts, hoodies, football tops and sports kit.

"We've supplied companies, football clubs, karate clubs, rowing teams and surf lifesaving clubs. We provide a lot of t-shirt tops for hen and stag parties."

Designs don't just go on items of clothing – Tony can put them on canvas. Family photos, for example, can make a nice gift. He also produces a lot of posters for clients.

Vinylize is located at 21 Broad Street, Barry (01446 311935).

Vinylize
Printing and Embroidery
Hoodies, choice of tops,
Sports - work & casual wear
Canvas photo printing
21 Broad Street, Barry, CF62 7AD
01446 311935 / 07828 057381

Budding Designs is available 24 hours a day!

Nicola Hopkins of Budding Designs Flower Studio will soon celebrate her first anniversary at High Street, Barry.

BUDDING Designs Flower Studio, which is about to celebrate its first anniversary on High Street, is a florist and gift shop wrapped into one.

What's more, customers can call into the shop at 1 High Street or browse at their leisure online at www.buddingdesigns.co.uk.

The owner, Nicola Hopkins, who qualified at Pencoed Horticultural College in 1993, said: "Our first year has gone really well. We specialise in wedding flowers, sympathy flowers and arrangements for specials occasions like birthdays and anniversaries.

"We also run popular workshops throughout the year on hand-tied bouquets, flower headdresses and Christmas wreaths.

"We also have lots of homeware gifts, a card selection and gift vouchers."

When Nicola started the business, she was determined to make her products and services as accessible as possible and explained: "Not everybody can get down to High Street – that's why so many people like to browse the website – we can also be found on Facebook and Instagram."

BUDDING DESIGNS
FLOWER STUDIO
Easter
Workshops, Online Ordering, Weddings, Sympathy
www.buddingdesigns.co.uk
1 High Street, Barry, CF62 7DZ
01446 404660

High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St BARRY

Welcome You

Food for Thought delicacies will tempt you this Easter!

The Food for Thought team wants to wish their customers a very happy Easter.

VISITING 'Food for Thought' family deli and takeaway is always a pleasure.

It's not just the delicious foods, it's the warm welcome customers receive. Many are known by their first names. That's not surprising, because the deli has acquired dozens of regulars over many years.

The business was first started 36 years ago by Dave and Lynda Keeble. Their son Nathan and his wife Sarah took over running the deli in 2001, but with the same friendly style.

The cheerful team are always on the go – providing an endless supply of baguettes, sandwiches, paninis, pasties and salads for local workers and High Street business owners.

Of course, there's a mouth-watering array of other items to choose from – choice meats, bread, cheeses, chutneys, preserves and cakes.

With Easter on the horizon, it's advisable to make an early trip to Food for Thought to make sure you get what you need for the holiday break.

On Easter Saturday, the deli will open from 7pm until 4pm.

the deli
est 1983

Freshly made coffees to take away - Cappuccino, Latte, Americano, Espresso & Mocha

A selection of home made salads and home cooked meats

Fresh sandwiches, baguettes, rolls and paninis prepared from 7am

12 High Street, Barry
01446 735711
facebook.com/fftdeli | @FFTDeli
www.thedelibarry.co.uk

Family Magic Show free tickets!

THE World's Smallest Magic Theatre, The Small Space on Island Road in Barry, is giving away four tickets to their Easter Family Magic shows.

Fellow directors and Magic Circle magicians Bryan Gunton and Jasper Blakeley are presenting their 90-minute funny, family-friendly magic show during the holidays, and it's your chance to be there too!

Suitable for children eight years old and up, this fast-paced funny magic show has amazing sleight of hand, mind-reading and traditional conjuring all mixed in with loads of fun and laughter.

For your chance to win four tickets (value £50) simply correctly name the face-down card underneath Bryan's hand in the photo and email your guess to: info@thesmallspace.co.uk.

Shows are from April 15 to April 26 and the competition closes on Sunday, April 14 at midnight. Correct answers will be put in a hat and the winner will be drawn at random and informed by noon on Monday, April 15.

Here's a clue: it's not a red card, it's not a spade, it's not a court card and it's lower than a 5…

For times and tickets for The Family Magic Show visit *www.thesmallspace.co.uk/whats-on*. The Small Space is at 5 Island Road, Barry CF62 7AR.

THE SMALL SPACE

The Smallest Theatre in Wales

Magic - Comedy - Music
Licensed Bar - Venue Hire

5 Island Road, Barry, CF62 7AR
www.thesmallspace.co.uk

Sew Lovely are thrilled to join Barry High Street

CONRAD and Carol Bartlett are delighted to bring their sewing shop to High Street, Barry, and are looking forward to welcoming new and old customers alike to the new premises.

They told The GEM: "We have had a very friendly welcome and hope our shop will bring new customers to this fantastic street.

"High Street in Barry is a great friendly area where you can get pretty much everything you need from independent retailers and we are glad to be a part of it.

"We have already run out of space filling the shop with fabric and haberdashery so we will continue to run our lessons and workshops from our studio in Penarth."

For more information go to: *www.sewlovelypenarth.com*

Conrad and Carol Bartlett are welcoming customers to their new premises at 30 High Street, Barry.

Sew Lovely
30 High Street, Barry CF62 7EB
For all your sewing needs
Fabric, Haberdashery & Singer Stockist
Sewing Lessons in our Penarth Studio
Haberdashery 07793503068 Studio 07583148278
www.sewlovelypenarth.com email sewlovelypenarth@gmail.com

TEN11 TEN11

Entertainment this April

Friday 12th April
Debyanne and the Doctor

Saturday 13th April
Mark Sheppard

Friday 19th April
The Maddisons

Saturday 20th April
DJ ED 80s - 90s Night

Bank Holiday Sunday
The Scoundrels

Friday 26th April
Jumpin Jimmy and the Nice Guys

Saturday 27th April
Peter Mortimore and Laura Dodd

Every Friday & Saturday from 10pm *DJ Willis*

Every Thursday from 6pm
Thirsty Thursday
Draft beers from £2.80 • Mixed drinks from £2.70

Every Sunday
HAPPY HOUR!
Drink specials from 6pm to midnight

Open: Thursday 8pm until 1am
Friday & Saturday 4pm until late
Sunday 6pm until midnight
10 - 11 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AA
07737 883731 • bookings@ten11.co.uk

High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St BARRY

Welcome You

For that special item...

Bespoke Jewellery is on Island Road.

BESPOKE Jewellery on Island Road will make original pieces of jewellery to your design or revive old and broken ones.

The business has two goldsmiths, and if someone brings in a design they will create and produce the finished product. Bespoke Jewellery also supplies gemstones and diamonds.

The owner Robert Linder said: "We can also do repairs and remodelling of jewellery – melting something down and turning it into something new.

"We also have a clean and polish service for £10 to keep jewellery in the best condition. We can tighten stones that are moving around, or deal with a problem clasp or claw."

Robert advises people to have much loved pieces checked over once a year to make sure they are kept in the best possible condition.

BESPOKE ✦ JEWELLERY ✦ WORKSHOP ✦

• REMODELS
• REPAIRS
• VALUATIONS

• WEDDING RINGS
• ENGAGEMENT RINGS
• COMMISSIONS

BESPOKE JEWELLERY WORKSHOP ✦ 4 ISLAND ROAD, BARRY
01446 732017

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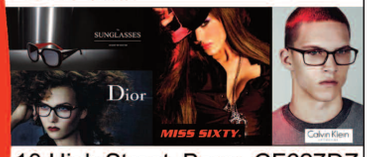

10 High Street, Barry, CF627DZ
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www.jonesandjones.org.uk

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CACI
Non surgical facelifts and Brazilian butt lift
Intense Pulse Light Therapy
Long lasting solution to unwanted hair
43 HIGH STREET, BARRY
Tel. 01446 743222
All aspects of Beauty

'Magical' toys in the High Street

Jill Mathews has a huge range of traditional toys and many of them encourage youngsters to be creative.

GIGGLES is High Street's traditional toy shop with more than a few surprises up its sleeve.

Jill Mathews, who started the business more than six years ago, explained: "I wanted toys that are magical and educational and would encourage children to use their imaginations."

Many of the toys are collectable. There's the Ty Flippables range; popular puzzles including 'The World of David Walliams' and 'Roald Dahl'; the Top Model creative art and design range for girls; Dino Dudes Scratch and Sketch activity books; Jellycat super soft toys (ideal for little ones) and Orchard Toys, which are educational games and puzzles.

Jill is always on hand to provide advice to parents. She says there is always one theme that attracts youngsters – "anything to do with dinosaurs"!

GIGGLES

It's all about the BUNNIES
• Jellycat Bunnies
• Peter Rabbit & Friends ty beanies
• Peter Rabbit traditional wooden toys
• Jigsaws and games from 0 to adult
• Top model activity design books.
• Welsh Books • Greetings cards in Welsh and English.
73 High St. Barry • 01446 734866

Enjoy a new treatment at The Beauty Clinic

OVER the last 14 years Michaela Glass, owner of the Beauty Clinic at 43 High Street, has always striven to bring the most up to date beauty treatments to Barry.

One of the most popular treatments at the moment is COMCIT skin resurfacing, which uses cryo to freeze the face and micro-needling and oxygen to plump out fine lines and wrinkles.

But that's just one of the many treatments available – there's micro blading for eyebrows, hair removal, jowl lifts, eye revive, waxing, facials, nail extensions, reflexology and eyelash extensions.

To book your treatment call 01446 743222.

Beautiful bouquets in stock at Beautiful Lily

Award-winning florist Helen Huggins.

AWARD-WINNING 'Beautiful Lily Florist' at 92 High Street has an excellent reputation for its bouquets, wreaths and special arrangements.

Whether it's a wedding, birthday, anniversary or funeral, Beautiful Lily will create a stunning arrangement.

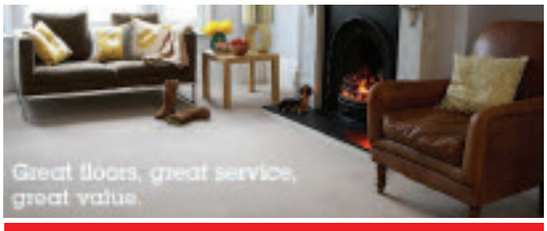
Last year, the owner Helen Huggins was named 'Welsh Florist of the Year' and this year she has been nominated in the independent business category of the Welsh Independent Retail Awards.

Helen said: "I want to thank all my customers for their support and wish them a happy Easter."

Beautiful Lily Florist
92 High Street, Barry
01446 677010
Easter Special
"Spring Posy" £12.00 .
(offer ends 15th April)
Happy Easter to all our customers!

beautifullily.vpweb.co.uk

Richard Jones CARPETS
31 years CELEBRATING
Serving the Vale with quality flooring
Flooring to suit every room in the home
★ NEW STOCK RANGES IN TIME FOR EASTER ★



For that touch of luxury
Shades of Grey
Introductory offer only £10.99 sq. mtr
25 Broad Street Parade, Barry
01446 740235
www.richardjonescarpets.co.uk

High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St BARRY

Welcome You

Look out for The GEM's full coverage of High Street's Easter activities in the coming weeks!

Vic Hopkins is now in store or online

Easter orders at Vic Hopkins & Son can be taken at the shop or online.

VIC Hopkins & Son Family Butchers Ltd, which has been providing high quality meat produce for more than 50 years, is one of the longest established local businesses and always keen to keep up to speed with the times.

Now customers can go online to select their choice meats – or, of course, pop into the shop.

The new website was launched in February and Anthony Hopkins explained: "I hope people will take time to visit the website. This Easter is our dry run for Christmas and it's an exciting innovation.

"We have our special Easter order form at the shop, but people can go on the website too. The deadline for Easter orders is Wednesday, April 17."

There's an Easter section on the website for people to browse. There's also a delivery service available, just ask in store for details, or visit the website. For more information, go to: *welshbutchers.co.uk*

VIC HOPKINS & SON
FAMILY BUTCHERS
Easter orders now being taken
Order instore or via our online shop:
www.welshbutcher.co.uk
93 High Street, Barry
01446 735265

Barringtons
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & LETTING AGENTS
Landlords wanted
25 High St, Barry, CF62 7EB
01446 738388
barringtonslettings@hotmail.com

'HQ2 The Salon' invites you to launch party

From left to right: Mollie, Jaydene, Lucy, Dawn, Georgia, and Kate.

HQ2 The Salon has moved from Holton Road to 11 High Street and is holding a launch party on Saturday, April 13.

The owner Dawn Vaughan said: "People are welcome to come along and meet the team. There will be goodie bags, nibbles and Prosecco. The launch event starts at 4.30pm and goes on until late.

"Since we've come to High Street, the other traders have been wonderful – really welcoming and friendly. It is so nice to be part of the community."

All the women at HQ2 The Salon are trained to highest level – level three.

The salon offers all kinds of hair styling and cuts, eyebrows, eye-lash extensions, nails, semi-permanent makeup and waxing.

WE HAVE MOVED!
HQ2 The Salon
Professional Hair & Beauty
Now at 11 High Street, Barry, CF62 7DZ
(Next door to The Deli)
All Stylists qualified to level 3 and kept updated with the latest colour and cutting techniques.
Also available, Microblading, Nails and Lashes
Open Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm and late night Thursday until 7.30pm
01446 400102

'Homemade in Wales' has great Springtime gifts

Fay Blakeley of Homemade Wales with Jonathan Griffiths of Gwaelod Y Garth Pottery.

HOMEMADE Wales specialises in working with local artists and makers to bring the people of the Vale (and beyond) unique gifts and homewares.

Since starting the business four and a half years ago, Fay Blakeley the owner has enjoyed meeting and discovering new artists and makers. One such maker is local potter Jonathan Griffiths of Gwaelod Y Garth Pottery.

Jonathan joined the Homemade Wales 'family' two years ago and creates beautiful hand thrown pots. Jonathan said: "It's a pleasure to work with Fay and Homemade Wales. She always pushes me to come up with new products and ideas for her customers.

"It's great to work with someone who understands the process and practice of professional artists."

Jonathan visited the shop earlier in the week to restock his popular hand-thrown homeware range, especially his 'Blodau' (flower) jugs.

Fay said: "We're delighted to be stocked for Easter, the jugs are the perfect size for spring flowers and make the perfect alternative gift to a chocolate egg."

You can find Homemade Wales on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

HOMEMADE WALES and beyond
Handcrafted Gifts & Homewares
Pasg Hapus
Happy Easter
9 High Street, Barry, CF62 7DZ
facebook.com/homemadewales

High Street Pharmacy's five-star service!

The team at High Street Pharmacy provides a friendly and efficient service for customers.

HIGH Street Pharmacy takes pride in being one of the few remaining independent pharmacies left in Barry, and in providing a smooth and efficient service for its customers.

Gwawr Davies Jones explained: "Our prescription collection service ensures our patients obtain their medication as seamlessly as possible.

"We firmly believe in going 'above and beyond' for all our customers because we know how stressful it can be dealing with GP surgeries and pharmacies, as well as looking after your own health.

"This is why we collect from all the surgeries in Barry and Sully every day and offer a free delivery service. Signing up to our repeat system is really easy – all patients need to do is pop in or give us a call on 01446 733789 and we'll do the rest. Find us on Facebook and you'll see all our five-star reviews!"

HIGHSTREET PHARMACY
WISHING ALL OUR CUSTOMERS A HAPPY EASTER
88 High Street, Barry
Tel: 01446 733789
www.highstreet pharmacy.wales
HIGHSTREET PHARMACY

Family stage music festival to remember 'incredible' Ben

THE family and friends of Ben McDonald, who died at the finish line of the 2018 Cardiff Half Marathon, have organised a festival style event called 'The BenJam' on May 2 at theDepot, Dumballs Road, Cardiff.

The event will include live music, food and stalls with the aim of bringing people together, celebrating his life and raising awareness and vital funds for the charity Welsh Hearts/Calonnau Cymru.

Ben's family said: "On October 7, 2018 our world was completely turned upside down when Ben McDonald died at the finish line of the Cardiff Half Marathon. He was 25 years old, fit and healthy, and his death has left our family shattered. If you didn't know Ben then you need to know he was amazing!

"He was funny, generous, caring, effortlessly cool, adventurous and always smiling, an incredible son, brother, uncle, grandson, and friend. If you didn't have the chance to meet him then you missed out on someone really special.

"Ben was always great at pulling people together, organising social events, hosting barbecues or pizza nights at our family home, gorge walking, or off on impromptu camping trips.

"He made good solid friends wherever he went. So in honour of him, and because of who he was, we want to keep that connection with people going. We are going to celebrate Ben's birthday in the way that he would: surrounded by people and trying to focus on the positive.

"We have chosen to support the work of Welsh Hearts, and all proceeds will be going to them. We chose Welsh Hearts because we believe in the work that they are doing to install defibrillators across Wales and to offer heart screening.

"Ben was also so proud to be Welsh! We don't know if screening would have helped Ben, and unfortunately on the day, the defibrillator wasn't able to save his life, but at least we know that he was given that chance. We believe that everyone should be given the same chance if they find themselves, or a loved one in a similar situation."

Since 2013 Welsh Hearts has played a leading role in improving heart health in Wales. This is vitally important work, since one third of all deaths in the country are as the result of cardiovascular disease.

To date they have supplied over 1,500 defibrillators, trained over 52,000 people in defibrillator and CPR training and screened over 2,500 young hearts for abnormalities.

The charity's heart screening initiative, which has been backed by former Wales Rugby captain Sam Warburton, involves a test which helps detect previously undiagnosed heart conditions in 10-45 year olds.

The McDonald family recently attended the delivery of a petition to the Senedd with Welsh Hearts charity director Sharon Owen, requesting that heart screening become mandatory for all 10-35 year olds.

"It's our mission to continue to provide defibrillators throughout Wales, to continue to grow the army of individuals who are fully trained in CPR and defibrillator use, and to lead the campaign for better awareness of cardiovascular health in Wales.

"We're so grateful to Ben's family for choosing to support us during what has been an incredibly difficult time for them. It's been an honour to get to know the people closest to Ben, and their resilience has been inspiring."

Confirmed acts for The BenJam include Dyme, Jellis and Jacob Sparkes with more to be announced. There will also be a raffle, with some incredible prizes including CIWW vouchers, Glamorgan T20 tickets, food and drinks vouchers for a selection of bars and restaurants across Cardiff, quad biking vouchers and more.

A Welsh rugby shirt, signed by the team the day after they won the Grand Slam this year will also be auctioned off for the charity, along with a rugby ball signed by Welsh Hearts ambassador and former Wales Rugby captain Sam Warburton.

The event is open to everyone of all ages. More information and tickets for The BenJam are available at *www.facebook.com/thebenjam710*.

For more information on Welsh Hearts' heart screening initiative and to book an appointment, visit *welshhearts.org/heart-screening-wales*.

The winning team from Pencoedtre High School.

School pupils soar in CAVC Aerospace Challenge

BUDDING aircraft engineers from schools across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan have been put through their paces at a special Aero Challenge held by Cardiff and Vale College (CAVC).

The year-10 pupils travelled to the college's International Centre for Aerospace Training (ICAT) for the annual challenge.

The competition has been designed to give school pupils a taste of the various tasks involved in the aerospace engineering industry, and to show the value of vocational education, with CAVC learners helping out and acting as ambassadors.

A team from Pencoedtre High School won the contest, retaining their title as a team from the school were the winners last year. The competition involved tests of hand and eye skill and project management – the pupils also got to try their hands at the college's flight simulator.

Pencoedtre High School maths teacher Holly Bryant said: "ICAT is an amazing venue, the staff are really friendly and helpful from the moment you step into the building. The activities are great – the pupils really like the variety and I think it really shows a number of different avenues they could go down in the future.

"It was really nice to have the CAVC learners there too – they were really helpful and enthusiastic and the pupils liked speaking to them about the courses they were doing."

'Amazing' achievement at St Cyres

ST Cyres School in Penarth is pleased to announce that three of its teachers, Richard Hopkin, Laura Hilltout and Damian Parker, have been welcomed to the Apple Distinguished Educator class of 2019.

In 1994 Apple created the Apple Distinguished Educators (ADE) programme to recognise primary, secondary and higher education pioneers who use technology to transform teaching and learning. They describe ADEs as authors, advisors, ambassadors and advocates of what's possible by bringing new technology to teaching and learning.

There are now around 2,800 ADEs worldwide in 45 countries. St Cyres believes it to be unprecedented in the UK for three new ADEs to be successful from one school in the yearly programme.

Steve MacKenzie, education director for Apple, stated: "We think this is a tremendous credit to you all for your hard work in creating an innovation culture at St Cyres School and supporting this culture with ongoing professional learning."

Headteacher Dr Jonathan Hicks said: "A total of 175 ADEs came from Europe, Middle East, India and Africa with 36 from the UK in 2019. There are only three ADEs this year from Wales and, amazingly, they all come from St Cyres School.

"This outstanding achievement once again shows that St Cyres School is at the forefront of digital teaching and learning."

Valeways walkers stroll in the heart of the Vale

IT was a bright, warm sunny morning when 14 Valeways walkers joined John at the Sportsman's Rest in Peterston-super-Ely for a morning walk. Instead of going north across the railway, the group opted to go south towards Kingsland.

Leaving the village, they crossed the river Ely using the bridge built in 1869 by Thomas Miller, whose name is inscribed in a plaque on the bridge. They headed uphill, passing Croes-y-Parc Baptist Chapel, built in 1843 to seat 500 worshippers and the site of the grave of Dafydd Williams, a noted hymn writer.

They walked as far as the entrance to Kingsland where they left the road, crossed Kingsland's drive and continued uphill over field before arriving at St Nicholas. A path alongside the school playing field led them to a road and turning right, they walked behind the newly-thatched Blacksmith's cottages and crossed the A48.

Crossing fields with views ahead and behind them, they arrived at Tinkinswood Burial Chamber. Believed to be around 6,000 years old, the communal burial chamber is one of two in the area, and when excavated in 1914, the remains of 50 bodies were found.

Crossing Dyffryn Lane, they walked towards the Downs and then back over the A48 to cross the peaceful Natural Burial Ground into Haelfaes and a small valley, stopping for a while to watch twin lambs being born.

They joined the track from St Nicholas to Homri and then headed downhill over fields to reach the Wyndham Park estate, built in the early 1900s and part of the proposed Glyn Cory Garden Village development, influenced by the ideas of Ebenezer Howard to a plan devised by Thomas Adams in consultation with the garden designer, TH Mawson.

The group crossed the river by the modern footbridge to arrive back at the start where a warm welcome was waiting in the pub. Many thanks to the staff at the Sportsman's Rest for their hospitality and the use of the car park.

The Valeways spring programme is now available, visit www.valeways.org.uk for details.

John Treby,
Valeways walk leader

Farmers' union says that meat production statistics do not apply to Wales

RECENT reports highlighting the large quantities of water needed to produce meat and dairy products are well wide of the mark in Wales, where it's mainly rain water which irrigates the lush pastures, a spokesman for the Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW) has said.

Such reports are based on global figures which group together the extensively-reared cattle and sheep of Wales with the intensive farms of the US.

"Here the majority of stock benefit from green water, the worldwide definition of the rainfall that is used at the place where it falls," said Charlotte Priddy, FUW policy officer."

Although no studies currently focus on Wales, one looking at beef and lamb water footprints in England showed 84 per cent and 97 per cent respectively as 'green'.

Charlotte added: "It is so important to consider water use in context. In a temperate, wet climate such as Wales, grassland water requirements are adequately met by this green water from rainfall. Even when grey water is considered, more than 80 per cent of water consumption for beef and lamb production in the UK is rainfall.

"Meanwhile British supermarkets are selling thousands of tonnes of avocados from Chile, where villagers claim water is being diverted from illegal pipes to irrigate their crops, causing wells to dry up. It takes 74 gallons of water to produce one pound of avocados. cehumboldt.ucanr.edu/?blogtag=avocado&blogasset=23438.

"By eating local, seasonal produce wherever possible, following the full story of the foods you eat, you can have peace of mind about water use and also reduce carbon emissions," she added.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Spring Cowbridge Feature

Spring is here and it's time to discover what's new in Cowbridge

JRC Jewellery offer quality items and a comprehensive repair service.

YOUR LOCAL FAMILY JEWELLERS

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COWBRIDGE'S USP has always been that it is a quintessential market town, where very little changes – but that is not the case at the moment.

Its population is on the rise, due to two building projects, one in the town and another just outside.

Visitors coming to Cowbridge from the west can't fail to notice Clare Garden Village - around 500 homes and a school are on the way - while in the town, just off Westgate, Churchill Retirement Living are building De Clare Lodge, a development of 37 homes.

Clare seems to be a popular name with developers.

There are also plans for the historic parts of the town, where the old cattle sheds that were part of the livestock market will be removed, putting Cowbridge's ancient town walls on show again, and freeing up an area to improve car parking.

Something else that happened over the last year was that the town was honoured in the 'Great British High Street' awards - receiving the accolade of 'Rising Star' in Wales. With more ideas and plans in the pipeline, the town's chamber of trade is setting its sites on the top award in the near future.

However, the overall look and feel of Cowbridge - that market town profile - remains unchanged. The town counts itself fortunate to be a place where new, independent retailers want to do business, and fresh faces have arrived in the last 12 months - always a good sign.

Cowbridge still boasts a wide range of shops where you can browse to your heart's content, and it still has plenty of places - cafes, pubs, restaurants and bars - where you can take a break or enjoy a great meal.

One valuable piece of advice in Cowbridge is to investigate any alleyway or side road you come across - you never know what might be just around the corner.

A good case in point is in Verity's Court, which has two businesses who complement each other very well.

Elly Worgan runs the Buttercup Cwtch on the ground floor, while Jenny Lambert is very much the artist in residence on the first floor.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

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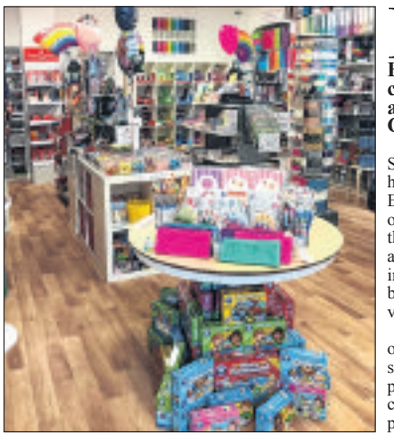
Everything you could want for Easter at The Pencil Case!



IF you are looking for chocolate-free Easter gifts for children, pop along to The Pencil Case on Eastgate.

Owner Sally Stephenson told us: "We have a fabulous range of Easter gifts for children of all ages. Popular themes feature right across our range, including unicorns, dinosaurs, ballerinas, space and vehicles.

"Older children love our brightly coloured stationery - pens and pencils, secret diaries, colouring pens and pencils and the very popular range of Top Model colouring and sticker books.

"For younger children, we have a wide range of educational Orchard Toys games and jigsaws, cute rucksacks and soft toys."

There are two special offers running at The Pencil Case this Easter – receive a free Easter egg when you buy any 10 collectible Iwako erasers - a novel alternative to chocolate eggs, it is a fun way for children to store their eraser collection and will last much longer!

Alternatively, spend £15 or more on anything from the Top Model range and receive a free children's watch!

Both offers available while stocks last.

The Pencil Case also stocks contemporary greetings cards in Welsh and English and a wide range of helium balloons. Open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday (closed on Good Friday).

Get a fresh new look this year at Sylvia Williams

Gionni designer sunglasses are available from Sylvia Williams.

THE Cowbridge pharmacists, Sylvia Williams, has added two new strings to its bow recently, with a top designer sunglass stylist, and a range of Gionni handbags.

The tres stylish 'Gionni' range of designer sunglasses offers both quality and style, for men and women.

With a string continental look, the Gionni range starts at £18, and are well worth a look with summer not so far away.

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The pencil case COWBRIDGE

Easter/Pasg

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See more on the Cowbrige feature on pages 26 and 27.

Spring Cowbridge Feature

Spring into Cowbridge this Easter!

Jean Tait at La Mercerie.

Jenny Lambert at work at her studio.

Elly Worgan at Cwtch.

Barking Mad has doggie Easter eggs.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

The Buttercup Cwtch's speciality is cards, and Elly stocks a huge variety, in both English and Welsh languages, and it's hard to imagine any shopper going away without the perfect card for any occasion. She does a four-for-£10 offer which has proved very popular.

The shop also carries a wide range of crafts, gifts and jewellery, and Elly is proud to say that around 80 per cent of these goods are made in Wales. Carrie Elspeth Jewellery is based in Llandow now, but started off just around the corner in Cowbridge, while she has other suppliers from Porthcawl, Sully and all over south Wales.

The Buttercup Cwtch will be hosting the Cowbridge Chamber of Trade's Easter Egg Hunt, which will take place from April 12 to April 24

Upstairs you will find artist Jenny Lambert, who specialises in bright, colourful and quirky Welsh landscapes - very often local - where she likes to play around with perspective.

She enjoyed art at school, taking her A-Levels, but then didn't paint for about 15 years. She said: "My dad suggested I start again and I found my own style. I went professional just over a year ago."

She has displayed her work previously in Barry and in Ogmore-by-Sea (in Cobbles Kitchen and Deli) but now Cowbridge has a permanent home for her work.

Jenny takes commissions and also has her paintings available on colourful coasters, postcards, mugs and tea towels, which are in stock and on sale alongside her original art work and prints.

Alfred Hitchcock used to make a cameo appearance in his films, and Jenny does her own version, as hidden in every painting is her black labrador, Tinker. Be careful if you start looking for him in every painting, as you could be there for some time!

If you find your way back onto the High Street, just along the way is Tallia, a fashion shop run by Susan Jones.

Susan told The GEM: "I've been open 18 months now, and it has been nice getting to know my customers and finding out what they like.

"I am excited about this season as I have some new brands which I know customers old and new will love.

"This season is full of vibrant colours and floral patterns for smart and casual wear. There is a look for every occasion."

Across the road you will find JRC Jewellery, which is run by a father-and-daughter team, Jonathan Mahoney and Rowena.

They have been in business in Cowbridge for six years now, and have an established reputation as a company that makes bespoke jewellery, offers a full repair service, does ring alterations, fixes chains, repairs watches and restrings beaded necklaces - all done by experts.

Jonathan and Rowena do, of course, sell fine jewellery too, and you can choose from a wide range, including diamond pieces and Welsh Clogau Gold.

As you move up the High Street, it changes into Eastgate, and there you will find Aimee Richardson, who opened 'Barking Mad' just nine months ago.

As the name suggests, Aimee's aim is to help owners get exactly what they want for their pet dog.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

Spring Cowbridge Feature

Plenty on offer in Cowbridge

Susan Jones at Tallia is excited about this season's new styles.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

She has enjoyed getting to know her customers and, because she is active on Facebook and Instagram, she is able to respond quickly when suggestions are made about things she should look to keep in stock.

Later this month, on Easter Saturday (April 20), she is organising a doggie fancy dress competition.

She said:"To enter, just bring your pet to the shop on the day between 10am and 4pm, and I will take a photo. Later in the day, the judges will decide on the best dressed dog!"

At La Mercerie, in The Old Mason's Yard, Jean Tait offers a haven for knitting enthusiasts. She has a huge range of yarns, and the shop hosts two groups of enthusiasts who come together to refine their technique and compare notes - not forgetting the social side.

The groups meet on a Wednesday, 1pm to 3pm and 6pm to 8pm. Jean says that the evening group has a younger profile, with members finding knitting a good way to wind down after a busy day.

Crochet is getting more popular at the moment, because there are so many elaborate designs to choose.

Jean said: "One member is working on a farmyard blanket where parts of it are 3-D, with animal heads sticking out.

"I've suggested that it is looking so good that it could be a wall hanging instead."

In a way, La Mercerie illustrates the attraction of the town. Yes, Cowbridge has supermarkets, pharmacies, coffee shops, designer boutiques, artists, gift shops and so much else, but it also has enterprises with strong roots in their community - very much part of the social fabric of the town.

Cowbridge is very much a 'Rising Star' - but it remains a real market town.

A welcome to Cowbridge from the town mayor

I EXTEND a warm welcome, Croeso Cynnes, to all visitors to our special town, Cowbridge.

I hope that you enjoy your visit and spend some quality time exploring the range of interesting places and things to do here in Cowbridge.

As a market town in the heart of the rural vale of Glamorgan we have so much to offer.

From the numerous independent coffee shops, hotels, restaurants and pubs, to the major chain coffee outlets you are ensured a warm and friendly welcome in a relaxed atmosphere.

For shoppers, from antiques and memorabilia to top end designer wear, you can find it all here.

As you wander along our 'Rising Star' award-winning High Street, take time to look behind the scenes where you will find old cobbled alleyways and courtyards with interesting and different shops.

The old town walls can still be seen, and it is worth visiting the award-winning Physic Gardens and the Old Hall Gardens which offer a tranquil and interesting environment.

The start of the Iolo Morganwg trail can be found in the Old Hall Gardens accessed through an arch off the High Street by the Old Hall.

Whatever your interest, whether it be sporting, leisure, shopping or culture, I am sure that Cowbridge will have something to offer. From our annual Cowbridge Music Festival, our Food and Drink Festival later next month, our May Day events, the museum in the original prison cells at the Town Hall, our wide range of sporting facilities and events, there will be something for everyone.

As the Mayor of the town, I am proud of what Cowbridge has to offer and I hope that your visit will be a pleasant and happy experience.

Terry L Williams
Mayor of Cowbridge (Ancient Borough) with Llanblethian

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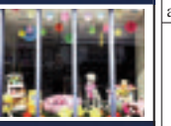
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Has the GEM been biased over Brexit?

WE noted and appreciated Mr Cairns' thanks regarding the politeness and respectful behaviour of the audience at his public meeting at the Duke of Wellington pub last week (GEM letters, April 4).

However we are disappointed that he continues to ignore those of us who avidly wish to remain in the EU, particularly as we make up the majority of the electorate in the Vale - more than half in fact, according to the 2016 referendum result.

It is clear from his letter that Mr Cairns is afraid of the pro-Brexit lobby and is thus voting accordingly (or not at all). Mr Cairns should represent ALL of his constituents, not just those who voted to leave.

He would be well advised not to ignore his remain-supporting constituents - over 8,000 people in the Vale (11 per cent of the electorate) have already signed the six million signature petition to revoke Article 50 and remain in the EU. Mr Cairns will no doubt be aware of this and should take serious note that this figure represents many thousands more votes than his current majority (2,190).

Vale of Glamorgan for Europe is a polite voice for remain, but we are also a very powerful voice, an active part of a large and influential network across both Wales and the UK. It is abundantly clear, as we have demonstrated numerous times in our surveys across the Vale, that more and more people now want Brexit to just go away, be stopped and not be constantly discussed in the media all the time. The best way for this to happen is for the whole process to be halted and for the UK to remain in the EU.

As Jacob Rees-Mogg helpfully pointed out only last Friday morning, the UK is a powerful force in Europe and clearly should remain so. The best deal for Wales (and the UK as a whole) is not May's deal or a Corbyn-May deal, but the one we already have with the EU. Mr Cairns would do well to remember that and should be in no doubt that his voting record on Brexit thus far has already greatly endangered his chances of re-election in the Vale.

We also note that although The GEM has claimed to be non-partisan and as a result refused to publish articles sent to the paper regarding the activities of Vale for Europe, they have been perfectly happy to publish Mr Cairns' pro-Brexit views both in his letter and the corresponding article on page 4 of last week's edition without once mentioning the very active pro-remain side of the Vale.

This is not in any way non-partisan and shows The GEM does not actually respect the neutral editorial stance the paper claims to have. We sincerely hope that in the interest of full disclosure, that this week you will publish our letter in full as an alternative view to those of Mr Cairns. It is also incumbent on our local newspaper to inform its readers that a very large, active and respected pro-remain group exists in the Vale.

On behalf of Vale of Glamorgan for Europe

GEM response:

The GEM totally rejects the two claims in this letter. The very short account of the meeting in Cowbridge simply recorded that it took place, and that the atmosphere had been civilised, and that Mr Cairns repeated his position that he had voted remain but accepted the decision to leave.

In terms of Brexit coverage in general, The GEM took the view some time ago that readers were in danger of being swamped by Brexit rhetoric. Almost every daily national newspaper devotes between three and six pages a day to the subject, so the idea that The GEM could offer some sort of weekly round-up, for instance, was never a practical proposition.

Remember also that The GEM is a small, local newspaper, and a comprehensive coverage of Brexit requires a political correspondent, a business correspondent, an economics correspondent, and a foreign correspondent.

Why does a newspaper need all those experts? Simply to put in context the various claims made by both sides that have contributed to a heated, potentially overwhelming and frequently toxic debate.

Has The GEM handled this correctly? To be frank, we are not sure. We would welcome the views of ordinary readers on this matter.

The GEM also asked Alun Cairns MP to respond.

He said: "I fully appreciate the strong feeling on both sides of the Brexit debate and I have taken into consideration the wide-ranging concerns at my public meetings on Brexit, which I have held across the Vale of Glamorgan. I am also holding another such meeting on Saturday in Barry.

"The local authority area, which includes Penarth, voted to Remain by 50.73 per cent. The House of Commons Library's independent research shows that the Vale of Glamorgan Parliamentary constituency (which does not include Penarth) voted to Leave by 52.6 per cent. My personal vote at the 2016 Referendum was to Remain but I am committed to honouring the outcome of the referendum."

Green tea and Tai Chi at Ystradowen WI

THE April meeting began with a talk, demonstration and participation on the martial art Tai Chi.

The speaker was Andy Thompson, a martial arts expert who began by explaining its origin.

He proceeded to show us some gentle moves, followed by an amazing demonstration of his skills.

We were then given the opportunity to try some very basic moves under his strict guidance. Finally, we were treated to green tea.

Although quite a diverse topic for a WI meeting, it was a welcome and enjoyable change.

Next month's annual and resolutions meeting will be followed by a fish and chip supper and the monthly raffle was won by Audrey Cocco.

SS

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Does the Vale get its fair share of funding for education?

A Penarth primary school head teacher has said he is concerned about how he can deliver Wales' new curriculum because of the squeeze in funding from Welsh Government.

Mr Steve Rees of Evenlode Primary School said things had got more difficult over the last four or five years, that he'd lost 11 staff in three years and that he was concerned as to whether the Vale was getting its fair share of funding. The school hires out its hall to make money and Mr Rees has sometimes cleaned the toilets and hoovered floors to prepare facilities for users.

The Leader of the Vale Council, Cllr John Thomas said the Vale had some of the best schools and teaching staff in Wales but their work was being undermined by a "flawed funding system".

He said: "The Welsh Government claims that the Vale funds its schools at a lower level than any other local authority in Wales. There is a failure to acknowledge that we receive the lowest level of funding for education from Welsh Government in the first instance, as a result of a flawed formula designed by Welsh Government.

While it may have once been effective, this formula has not been reviewed for 18 years and relies on data gathered in the 1991 census.

"It simply beggars belief that the funding of possibly the most important area of our work is determined by data that is almost 30 years old. Both Cllr Penrose, my cabinet member for learning and culture, and myself have raised concerns about this directly with Welsh Government on numerous occasions.

"The responses I have received have given me absolutely no confidence in the methodology used to distribute education funding across Wales. Perhaps more worryingly, they have also shown a complete unwillingness to reconsider their approach or to address any of the clear flaws that have been raised, preferring instead to bat this issue back to local authorities to resolve."

A Welsh Government spokesperson said: "School funding is the responsibility of local authorities and we note that the Vale of Glamorgan spends the least per pupil in the whole of Wales.

"Every local authority must have a school budget forum – as set out in law – where schools have the opportunity to influence the funding decisions their authorities make. Local authorities must also consult their schools budget forums and all schools in their area when setting a funding formula.

"We recognise that to continue to raise standards, our schools and teachers need additional support. That is why we recently announced the single biggest investment for teachers since devolution – a £24m package of professional learning to support the new curriculum, giving schools the time and resources they need."

The spokesman added: "It is important to note that Welsh Government has presented local authorities, including the Vale of Glamorgan, with proposals to update the 1991 census related element of the current funding formula for local government, however this proposal was not pursued."

Choirs in harmony at spring concert

LLANTRISANT Male Voice Choir and Tabernacle Choir Bridgend were delighted with the very positive comments they received from members of the audience at the end of their joint Spring Concert on April 5 at Tabernacle, Bridgend.

The concert was dedicated to the memory of Ron Norey, the former Tabernacle Choir chairman, who died recently. We were pleased that his widow Joan was able to attend.

This was a very busy evening for Matthew Nash because he is the conductor of both choirs. He was ably supported by accompanist Ryan Wood on the piano.

The programme was certainly made more interesting for everyone by the informative introductions to each section given by Robin Samuel for Tabernacle and chairman Ted Tidman for Llantrisant.

Tabernacle's first half included Ivor Novello's 'We'll Gather Lilacs'; also Bach and Handel with 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring' and 'Zadok the Priest'. The Welsh song 'Cenin Aur' by M Thomas was also well received.

Llantrisant delighted with old favourites such as 'Llef' and Macuff's arrangement of 'Angels' and the first half finished with Matthew's arrangement of 'Can't Take My Eyes Off of You'.

In the second half, Llantrisant opened with 'Gwahoddiad' and closed with 'American Trilogy' arranged by Aldwyn Humphreys. Between these songs they performed a group of modern songs arranged by Mathew; 'Perfect', 'Skyfall' and 'Stay' brought their own variety, and the choir certainly rose to the challenge they presented. Their performance showed an attention to detail, colourful expression and good discipline.

Tabernacle started the second half with a medley from *My Fair Lady*; Welsh songs followed, namely 'Hafan Gobaith' and 'O Fab y Dyn'; the choir was pleased by the warm and enthusiastic reception they received from the audience.

Finally both choirs combined to sing with great feeling the Welsh hymn 'Tydi a Roddaist'. It was a rousing and fitting end to a very enjoyable musical evening.

MR

For all the latest news - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Local transport could get a green energy boost

LOCAL people are being asked to respond to a consultation on transport issues in Cornelly, Nottage, Rest Bay, Porthcawl, Newton, Bryntirion, Laleston and Merthyr Mawr.

The consultation is about a potential new electric vehicle community transport service that would be powered by renewable energy and serve rural areas in Bridgend.

With the support of Bridgend Reach, the environmental charity Sustainable Wales has contracted a feasibility study for electric vehicle community transport provision to address some rural issues.

An event will be held at Porthcawl YMCA at 7pm on Thursday, April 18, (The Y Centre, John Street, Porthcawl, CF36 3AP)

At the event, preliminary findings of the study will be shared, and everyone attending will be invited to share their views on the outline proposal, as well as to help identify any further transport issues. The event will be facilitated by Gower Power Co-op CIC.

Margaret Minhinnick of Sustainable Wales said: "In advance of the event, please let us know about any transport issues you, or the people you support, are experiencing, on *https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/N52Z982*"

MM

Holy Week at St Illtyd's, Bridgend

PREPARATIONS are well underway for Holy Week at St Illtyd's Church in Newcastle, Bridgend.

From Monday, April 15 there is a mass each day at 7pm, including Maundy Thursday, as well as the regular 9.30am mass on Wednesday.

On Good Friday (April 19), there is the Veneration of The Cross at 2.15pm and on the following day, Holy Saturday there is a service of Compline at 7pm.

Mass on Easter Sunday is, as usual, at 10.30am.

Parish priest Father David Lloyd added: "And for those feeling energetic, there is a churchyard clean-up starting at 9.30am on Holy Saturday, so regular churchgoer or not, do come along for some not too arduous work; a friendly chat, some refreshments, and to play your part in the upkeep of Bridgend's most historic churches."

For further information, call Fr David on 01656 655999, or search for *@saintilltydbridgend* on Facebook.

DL

Season end for the Bridgend Quiz League

THE Bridgend Quiz League's recent Cup and Plate results are as follows:

Cup Final: Penybont AFC Nomads 54, Tondu Railway Club 47.

Plate Final: Mackworth Arms 58, TyRisha Arms 41.

Season's Final tables:

Division One: Penybont AFC Nomads 28 points; Tondu Railway Club 26; Crown Maesteg 23; TyRisha Arms Royals 19; Five Bells A 11; Mackworth Arms 11; Laleston Inn A 8

Division Two: Chatterton Arms Shunters 35; Six Bells Clangers 28; Pheasant Gamekeepers 28; Laleston Inn B 21; Five Bells B 17; Prince of Wales Rebels 17; Cabo Roche 16; Oddfellows Arms 5.

Here are this week's teasers (answers below):

What is the activity 'natation' better known as?

The characters Fred Jones, Daphne Blake, Velma Dinkley and Norville Rogers appear in which children's TV show?

Which Welshman scored the last international try at the old National Stadium in Cardiff?

Steve Kingscott

ANSWERS: Swimming. Scooby Doo. Rob Howley.

Congratulations! Richard and Judith celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary

A Dinas Powys couple who met at the Marina Ballroom at Penarth Pier in the 1950s have just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Richard and Judith have lived happily in Dinas Powys for the last 49 years.

Richard and Judith Fudge were married at the registry office, Park Place, Cardiff, on April 4, 1959.

Richard and Judith Fudge were both living in Cardiff at the time and met at the ballroom in March 1958.

Richard was home on leave from national service.

Judith explained that in the 1950s people from Cardiff used to travel by train to Penarth Train Station and walk down to the pier for an evening of dancing. At midnight buses were laid on to take the dancers back home to various areas of Cardiff.

The couple were married at the registry office in Park Place, Cardiff, on April 4, 1959. They first lived in Canton, then in Caerphilly, but have now lived happily in Dinas Powys for 49 years.

Richard (82) worked as a self-employed carpenter and Judith (78) worked part-time driving an ambulance for Cardiff City Council, taking elderly and infirm people to appointments.

The couple have two children and seven grandchildren.

On the day of their 60th anniversary, they enjoyed a family celebration at La Marina in Penarth.

Then on Sunday, April 7, 53 family and friends gathered for a party at the Copthorne Hotel.

Cowbridge car boot bonanza on Sunday!

COWBRIDGE Rotary car boot sales get underway again this weekend, starting on Sunday, April 14 in the Cowbridge Town Hall car park at 8.30am.

The Rotary car boot sale has become a popular fixture in the Cowbridge social calendar, hugely successful in supporting local, national and international Rotary charities, among them the president's nominated charities Y Bont – enabling children with a disability to fulfil their potential; Samaritans, and Crisis, together with many other good causes.

It costs just £6 per car/pitch and sellers are advised to arrive around 7am to secure their spot.

Rotarians will be on hand at the car park entrance to help with parking arrangements.

Cowbridge Rotary car boot sales are held on the second Sunday of every month (April – August) and signposted in and around the town and outskirts in the week leading up to the event. Dates for your diary are:

Sunday April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14 and August 11 (Sunday, September 8, is held as a reserve date in the event of very bad weather).

The boot sales are always popular, with buyers arriving early from 8.30am and the session usually wrapping up around midday. So don't miss out. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the events again this year.

Further enquiries can be directed through the club's website at *cowbridge.rotary@yahoo.co.uk.*

'Get your blood pressure tested in Cowbridge'

COWBRIDGE Rotary will be supporting a joint venture with the Stroke Association on Saturday, April 13, at the Cowbridge Town Hall (Lesser Hall) between 10am and 1pm to tackle and raise awareness of the ever-increasing incidence of stroke amongst our population.

Cowbridge Rotary has supported this event for more than 20 years, and welcomes anyone to call into the Lesser Hall on Saturday to have their blood pressure taken by a volunteer health professional.

The service is completely confidential and medical professionals will take blood pressure and provide appropriate advice as necessary.

Rotarians will be on hand at the Town Hall to direct visitors to the Lesser Hall and provide tea and biscuits.

Further enquiries can be directed through the clubs website at: www.cowbridgerotary.club or via email at: *cowbridge.rotary@yahoo.co.uk.*

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Andros, Llancadle
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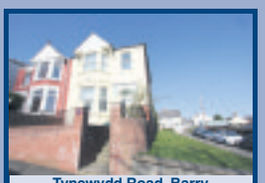
Lovely Rear Garden
2 Parking Spaces
£165,000 B83

Greenacres, Barry
2 Bedrooms
Open Aspect; No Chain
Ideal 1st Buy or Buy To Let
£135,000 D54



Tynewydd Road, Barry
3 Beds, 2 Receps
Views, Garden
Town Location
£173,000 D55

Newlands Street, Barry
Three Beds, Two Receps
Large Kitchen
Off Road Parking
£179,950 G18

Cross Street, Barry
Three Double Bedrooms,
Two Receps
Pretty Rear Garden
£179,950 E51

Harbour Walk, Barry
3 Beds, Kitchen/Diner
En Suite & Bathroom
South Facing Garden
£190,000 B84

Highfield Road, Barry
Three Beds,
Three Receps,
Garage
£229,950 D68

Kennedy Rise, Barry
3/4 bedrooms,
2/3 receptions
Very private rear garden
£262,000 D58

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Four Beds,
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Bridge Street, Barry
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£339,950 D58

The Parade, Barry
Great Location,
Two Beds,
Sun Room
£345,000 D60

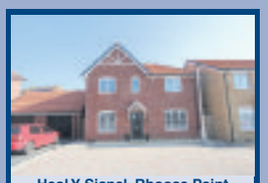
Havant Close, Rhoose
2 Double Bedrooms; Sea Views
Large Living Room; Refitted Kitchen
White Bathroom & WC; No Chain
£89,950 D67

Murlande Way, Rhoose
3 Bedrooms; 2/3 Receptions
Generous Conservatory (Solid Roof)
Very Large Side & Rear Garden
£235,000 E51

Llanmead Gardens, Rhoose
3 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Conservatory; Great Parking
Private Garden; Quiet Position
£240,000

Murlande Way, Rhoose
4 Bedrooms; 3 Receptions
Conservatory; Utility; WC
En-Suite; 4 Car Drive; Garage
£250,000 C71

Readers Way, Rhoose
4 Bedrooms - 1 En-Suite
Beautifully Refurbished
Generous Parking (5-6 Cars)
£284,000 D64



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Cardiff Airport manager is Police's first-ever 'Special Superintendent'

SOUTH Wales Police has appointed its first 'Special Superintendent' – Jason Coleman, who works at Cardiff Airport.

By day Jason, from Llanharan, is Head of Quality Safety Health and Environment at the airport. A self-confessed proud Welshman, Jason has been working as acting Special Sergeant based at Pontypridd Police Station in charge of the deployment of 26 Special Constables to ensure secure policing at events, walking the beat and on frontline operations.

Detective Superintendent Jason Davies said: "Jason's strategic management of quality and safety are highly desired and transferrable skills. He started with us in December 2017 as a Special Constable and this swift progression through the Special ranks is a reflection on his dedication and commitment.

"The Special Superintendent will have strategic responsibility to deliver on priorities and ensure meaningful outcomes at a tactical level."

The police service has a national Employer Supported Policing Scheme, which is a partnership benefitting employers, their staff and the police service by releasing Special Constables and Police Support Volunteers.

Deb Barber, CEO of Cardiff Airport, said: "I would like to personally congratulate Jason on his promotion to Special Superintendent. Jason has been in a position of senior management at Cardiff Airport for many years, during which time he has made a significant contribution to the success of the airport.

"We are strong supporters of this initiative at Cardiff Airport, and on behalf of the whole airport team I would like to wish Jason every success in his new role."

Special Superintendent Jason Coleman commented: "I am honoured to be appointed as the first Special Superintendent for South Wales Police. I thrive on this dual working life and feel I am getting the best of both worlds, so to speak, and I get to give something back to the community, particularly in supporting young people.

"I have a child with learning difficulties who has been diagnosed as autistic, so just one of the opportunities afforded to me through this role is to give back to the community by supporting campaigns such as the Keep Safe Cymru Card Scheme. The scheme is a police initiative that supports vulnerable people with communication needs."

National Garden Scheme begins a new year

SLADE Garden in Southerndown will be open on Saturday and Sunday, April 27 and 28, from 12pm until 6pm, as part of the National Garden Scheme (NGS) – raising money for charities.

The garden tumbles down a valley surrounded by woodland, full of spring bulbs and fritillaries.

There are formal areas with a rose and clematis pergola and herbaceous borders. Tea and cake will be available and plants for sale. Entrance is £5 and children are admitted free. It is the perfect garden to visit as a family.

For more information visit *www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/4563/*. All of the Glamorgan garden openings are on our Instagram account, *ngsglamorgan.*

9x4

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Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012
Listed Building Consent / Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/Rhif y cais:	2019/00352/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Erection of new single storey rear garden room extension. Conversion of former stable and store to provide self-contained granny annexe (including remodelling first floor bathroom). Internal alterations to kitchen and dining room including removal of part of wall between. Provision of new garden shed
Location:/Lleoliad:	The Old Vicarage, Wick Road, St. Brides Major
Listed Building:/Adeilad Rhestredig	Grade II
Application No:/Rhif y cais:	2019/00354/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig:	A single-storey modern extension to the annex building & enlarging an opening in the existing external wall to create an open plan area. Internal works include existing accessible WC into storage & construction of an accessible WC within a new internal lobby between the main library hall & annex building
Location:/Lleoliad:	Penarth Library, Stanwell Road, Penarth
Listed Building:/Adeilad Rhestredig	Grade II

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via http://vogonline.planningregister.co.uk

Dated / Dyddiedig: 11 April, 2019

V. L. RobinsonOperational Manager, Regeneration and Planning, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/

Barry artist forges partnership between Welsh and Chinese artists

ON April 6, Vale AM Jane Hutt attended 'Paper Exchange', the first part of an international artistic partnership at BayArt Gallery in Cardiff, with First Minister Mark Drakeford.

Barry artist Mary Husted has forged a unique partnership between Welsh and Chinese artists and the Art Central Gallery in Barry will host her latest exhibition; 'Open Books – Chinese Folding Books and Works on Paper'.

Ms Hutt said: "The pioneering art of Mary Husted is featured across the world but she has also forged this partnership with Chinese artists built on a cultural exchange using paper and Chinese calligraphy. Art Central Gallery will be displaying this over the next few weeks."

WI members learn warning signs of sepsis

ON March 18, Cadoxton Barry WI welcomed Terence Canning, who gave a very personal and important message to the members on an important but underestimated condition which affects more than 250,000 people every year – sepsis.

Tea and coffee followed with the raffles won by Avril French and Marilyn Dowling.

Our day out on March 21 was a trip to Trago Mills, followed by a very pleasant lunch at Table Table in Merthyr Tydfil.

Our next meeting is on Monday, April 15, at 7pm at Victoria Park Community Centre and new members are always welcome! If you are interested, contact the president Christina Whitchurch on 01446 404891.

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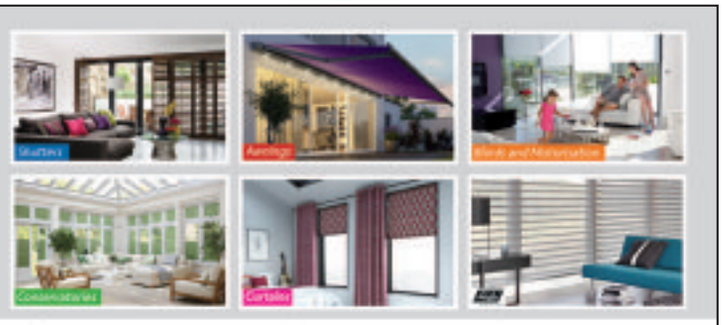

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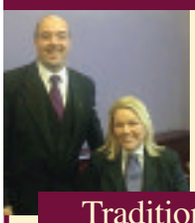

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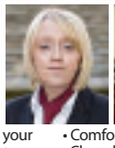

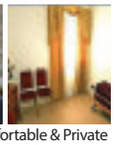

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Family Notices

CARSLEY
Brenda

After a long battle with Alzheimer's, Brenda peacefully passed away at Springbank Nursing Home on 3rd April 2019, aged 84 years. Devoted wife of 64 years to Donald, loving mother to Gaynor.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at All Saints Church, Barry, on Wednesday, 17th April at 1pm, followed by an interment at Barry Cemetery.

Family flowers only. Donations may be made in memory of Brenda in favour of The Alzheimer's Society at the service.

JOHN
Adah (*née* Mills)

Peacefully passed away with her family around her on 28th March 2019, aged 87 years. Beloved wife of the late Bill (Prosser); loving mother to Mark, Diane and Kathryn; devoted gran to Elliot, Sophie, Jake, Evan, Will and Luke. Great-grandmother to Siena.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Cadoxton, Barry on Thursday, 18th April at 2.45pm, followed by a committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations can be made in memory of Adah in favour of Marie Curie Cancer Care at the service.

JONES
Ian Leonard

The family wish to announce the sad passing of Ian on 30th March at the University Hospital of Wales. Loving dad of Adam, Aaron and Abi. Grandad of Chloe and Hollie. Cherished son of Janice and stepdad Tim, loving brother of Stephen, Matthew, Aimee and uncle to all his nephews.

Ian will be sadly missed.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at the Chapel of Rest on Wednesday, 17th April at 4pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Family flowers only. Donations lieu, if so desired for WCADA (Welsh Centre of Action on Dependency and Addiction Ltd).

STURGESS
James William (Jim)

After a short illness on 2nd April at the Princess of Wales Hospital Bridgend, Jim of Ty Groes Farm, Bonvilston. Beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather.

Resting at J. Pidgeon & Son, 539 Cowbridge Road East, Victoria Park, Cardiff (02920 226604) until the funeral service on Thursday, 18th April at 1pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, Barry, CF62 9PX.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu may be made to the Alzheimers Society, Oldwell Court, Ty Gwyn Road, Penylan, Cardiff, CF23 5DA.

HEMMING
Michael J.E.

Mike's funeral will be held on Tuesday, 16th April at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry, CF62 9PX at 1pm.

Flowers to go to Thomas Bros, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

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WHITE
Philip James "PHIL"

Peacefully on 1st April at the University Hospital Of Wales, Cardiff, Phil sadly passed away. He will be well known of Barry and remembered for his love of motorcycles.

Cherished son of Mo and the late Tony, much loved brother of Paul, Michael, Deborah and Cath. Special brother in law of Jill, Toni, Rob and the late Steve. A respected and loved uncle who will be greatly missed together by everyone who knew him.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Thursday 18th April at 11am.

Family floral tributes only – donations if desired may be made at the service to support Kidney Research in memory of Phil.

Further enquiries please telephone 01446 407962.

DELANEY
Patricia (Pat)

Sadly past away on 25th March 2019 at Llandough Hospital, Penarth, formerly of Lee Road, Barry. Devoted wife of the late Reg Delaney, mother of Carol, grandmother of Hayley and Lee. Great grandmother of seven. Sister of Betty and the late Cyril.

Pat will be sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her funeral service at the Coastlands Church, Tennyson Road, Colcot, Barry on Tuesday, 16th April 2019 at 11am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery at 12 noon (family only).

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers to the Alzheimer's Society.

Traditional funeral attire please.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Anthony D.H. Thomas.

BRYAN
Gerona (Rona)

Peacefully on 5th April 2019, aged 92 years. Devoted wife of the late Reg, loving mother to Dennis and Bobby, mother-in-law to Denise, grandmother of Thomas.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at St Helen's RC Church, Barry on Tuesday, 16th April at 9.45am, followed by a committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations may be made in memory of Rona directly to The Alzheimer's Society, 43-44 Crutched Friars, London, EC3N 2AE.

MORGAN
Edna Elizabeth

Peacefully at Danygraig Care Home, Porthcawl on Saturday, 30th March 2019, Edna formerly of St. Illtyd's Road, Bridgend. Devoted wife of the late Teifi. Much loved mum of Kevin. Loved and respected mother-in-law of Susan and a loving and proud nanny of Ellen.

Friends please meet for service in Rosemount Funeral Home on Friday, 12th April 2019 at 10am, followed by interment in Bridgend Cemetery.

Family flowers only by request but donations will be gratefully received for Alzheimer's Research UK and may be sent direct to 3 Riverside, Granta Park, Cambridge, CB21 6AD.

All enquiries to Rosemount Funeral Home, 19 Coychurch Road, Bridgend, CF31 3AP. Tel - 01656 653156.

SCOBIE
Margaret Ann

Peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Margaret (Marg) passed away on 29th March 2019, aged 83 years. Beloved wife of Mike; cherished mother to Sue & Ian and Sean; and adored nan of Jason & Amy, Gemma & Mark and Jamie.

She will be greatly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare, Llantwit Major until the service at 1.15pm on Tuesday, 16th April at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend CF35 6AB.

Family flowers only. Donations in Margaret's memory welcomed for Ward 8 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Coity Road, Bridgend CF31 1RQ. Please make cheques payable to 'CTMU Health Board' with 'Ward 8' and 'Margaret Scobie' on the reverse.

HEPPENSTALL
Gary Robert

Passed away after a long illness on 4th April 2019, aged 72 years.

Gary will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium on Wednesday, 17th April at 10am. Flowers may be sent directly to the funeral home.

HILL
John Robert

Suddenly, after a long illness, John Robert Hill, passed away on 3rd April. Beloved husband to Marilyn, father of Gayle, Julie, Leila, Joanna, Katie and the late Tracey. Grandfather and great-grandfather.

Resting at Robert D. Johnson Funeral Directors, 29 Holton Road, Barry. Funeral service to take place at 1pm on Wednesday, 17th April at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

No flowers at the request of the family. Donations will be greatly received to Ward West 6 of Llandough Hospital.

BASTICK
Anthony William

Sadly passed away on 1st April 2019, aged 79 years. Dearly loved father of Julie and Jacqui, devoted grampy of Sion, Kieran, Lili and Ffion.

He will be sadly missed by many.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday, 23rd April, service 11am at St Peter's Church, Rhoose, followed by cremation 12 noon at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Donations if desired to the Autistic Society c/o the funeral director.

In Memory

'LOLA'

Our beautiful and well known Standard Poodle went to sleep very gently on Monday, 8th April 2019

Alan & Loena Sheppard.

Acknowledgements

BIRNER
Captain Alfred-Alfons

Luschie, Abi, Andrea and the family wish to thank everyone for the cards, donations and the kind heartfelt messages following the passing of Alfred, an amazing husband to the late Angela, a wonderful father and a well-respected sea captain. We would also like to thank those who attended the funeral to celebrate Alf's life and his friends from across the world for their touching messages of condolence.

We would also like to thank the district nurses and the Marie Curie team for their kindness at such a difficult time.

In addition, we are so grateful to Father Kevin Lake and Rebecca and her team at A.G. Adams Funeralcare for their care, consideration and dedication to ensure the service was a true celebration of Alf's life.

Thank you.

FOGG
Les

Les's family wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the lovely cards and messages of sympathy they have received.

Thanks to the Rev John James for conducting the service, and to the family and friends who attended.

Appreciation to all the staff at Holme Towers for their compassion and kindness.

In Memory

BIRTHDAY MEMORIES

BLOSS
Vera Jean

15th April

A wonderful wife and mother, who I miss so very much.

Peter

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Whitewash win for Bridgend Athletic RFCsecond XV

BRIDGEND Athletic RFC second XV emulated their first XV with a bonus point home win on the adjacent field against Rhiwbina seconds, winning 30-0.

They also made it a pointless visit to Newbridge Fields for the two Cardiff sides by going slightly better than the first XV with five tries in a 30-0 win.

It moved the Athletic to fourth place in the Conference above fifth placed Rhiwbina, with six wins in 10 starts; and avenged an earlier last minute 5-3 defeat by the Squirrels.

Try scorers for the Athletic were full back Ryan Pickford (two), scrum half Josh Seldon, flanker Aled Pilliner and hooker Matt Greenman one apiece. Outside half Scott Jones weighed in with a penalty and conversion.

AB

Barrivale Bridge Club news

THE latest results at Barrivale Bridge Club are as follows:

First, Mike Best and Mike Close 64.29 per cent; second, Peter Millar and Tim Barsby 61.90; third, Mark Roderick and Noelle Bond 56.67.

The handicap winners were Sue Jones and RozzThomas.

New members at the club are always welcomed and a partner may be arranged, if required. If you would like to join us, call any of the following numbers: 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

Players inexperienced or new to bridge playing, may attend the following sessions: Friday 10am at the Pioneer Hall for lessons and assisted play and Thursday afternoons for assisted play from 1.30-4pm at the Barry Uniting Church, Heol y Llongau, Barry CF6 34AP (the waterfront).

Situations Vacant

Bethan Jones

JOB VACANCY: COWBRIDGE BOUTIQUE

We are looking for a competitive retail Sales Assistant to help customers identify and purchase products they desire. Duties include selling, restocking and merchandising. The goal is to provide high class customer service and to increase company's growth and revenue.

Full Time / Part Time

Contact Bethan Jones: 07718 897495

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern,

We, **The Old School Management Trustee Committee,** do hereby give notice that we have applied to The Licensing Authority (Vale of Glamorgan Council) for the grant of a premises licence at **1 South Road, Sully, CF64 5TG** known as **The Old School.**

The Application is for **The sale of alcohol on the premises between the hours of 12.00 and 23.00 each day.**

Any person(s) wishing to make representations to this application may do so in writing to the **Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU, or by email to licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk** not later than 28 days after the date of this notice (as below). Representation received after this date will not be considered.

A copy of the Application can be viewed at the Civic Offices during normal office hours.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make false statements in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.

Signed: Richard Thomas

Date: 1 April 2019

Looking to advertise in over 45,000 newspapers AND online - email sales@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

SMALL ADS BIG RESULTS!

Double delight for Holton Road as they win cup final!

ON a glorious Sunday afternoon at Jenner Park, Holton Road Seniors clinched the Division One double by beating a spirited Cadoxton Barry 3-2.

It was a tense affair, Holton gaining the honours with two goals from Danny Morgan and a strike from Shaun Jachontow.

Holton had chances to finish the game off a few times but thanks to an incredible performance from Cadoxton's keeper, the score was kept close.

Credit to Cadoxton as they kept fighting and always looked dangerous on the counter-attack.

Holton coach Jeff Howells said: "I can't emphasize how proud I am of my lads; winning the league in January unbeaten was a great achievement and now to secure the double is a fantastic feeling.

"I'd like to thank all the players for being a joy to coach and watch, also to Matty for the hard work he puts in, the committee for the unseen hard work they do for the club and especially to the youngsters who turned up on mass to support us, singing their hearts out for the whole game.

"It's back to business now as we've another big game to play in the SWFA Intermediate Cup semi-final at Bridgend Street Stadium against The Royal Oak FC from Cwmbach."

JH

Vets takes a step closer to league title

SWANSEA Vets welcomed a Barry 55s squad to sunny Llandarcy, for this Wales Veterans over-55s league encounter and a fine 3-0 win for the visitors moves them closer to title.

The home side started with high hopes of a result reversal from November (when Barry enjoyed a 4-1 win) and opted for an adventurous five across the middle in an effort to negate Barry's passing game.

The tactic failed however, as Swansea's Jones, Clarke and Harris failed to overcome Barry's Huish and Marshall in the engine room - and in doing so allowed space for full backs Hill and Staddon to play long, probing passes to Murray and Bobbett, who galloped gleefully into opposition territory.

On one such foray a corner resulted, delivered expertly by Dupuy and gratefully headed home by Murray from two inches!

Minutes later Bobbett latched onto Hill's through ball and thought he had doubled the advantage, only to be controversially ruled out by the official.

The visitors were not to be denied however, and another pass by Marshall allowed Murray to beat the offside trap and when the ball ran kindly after a clash with the advancing keeper, Murray was left with a simple tap-in to score his, and Barry's second.

At the other end, Barry's strong team ethic nullified Swansea's danger men, Davidson and Godwin, the latter dropping ever deeper to secure some service. Although most of Swansea's sojourns forward were dealt with comfortably by Blackie and Jones, keeper John Jones was called into spectacular action when tipping a Robinson header away.

On the half-hour, a Huish through ball dissected the Swans defence and Bobbett was only denied by the keeper who pushed the ball around the post.

Dupuy subsequently delivered another clinical corner which Jones volleyed home with aplomb, leaving defender Medwin in his wake.

Going into the interval the game was all but over.

Into the second half and Swansea were playing for pride, but it was Barry who controlled the tempo of the game and created the better chances.

Huish went close with a drive from outside the box and Murray, Bobbett and Welsh all had opportunities to increase the margin.

This result moves Barry a point behind leaders Llantrisant with a game in hand, which is, ironically, the team's next fixture - should be a humdinger!

AH

Rugby league charity publication is announced

TWO more venues have been confirmed for the launch weekend for the new WRL-approved charity magazine, which is being published to raise money for "The Danny Jones Defibrillator Fund" and "Scott's Angels".

The publication entitled "100 Months of Rugby League in Wales" will go to the clubs where the players who the causes were created for - Scott Bessant and Danny Jones - started out in rugby league.

On Saturday, May 4, it will be on sale at New Panteg RFC, the new home of Torfaen Tigers RLFC as they take on Swindon St George (kick-off 2.30pm) in their first home match of the new Southern Conference League season.

Then on Sunday , May 5, it will be on sale in the club shop at The MBI Shay Stadium before the Betfred Championship match between Halifax RLFC and Barrow Raiders (kick-off 3pm).

This is in addition to the official launch at the Welsh Charitables RFC dinner on Friday, 3May at the Mercure Holland House Hotel in Cardiff, as announced last week.

"Scott's Angels" was created to raise money for the family of former Torfaen Tigers rugby league player and coach Scott Bessant. In the early hours of August 13, 2017, Scott was found unconscious with multiple fractures to his skull, a fractured neck, broken ribs and a fractured pelvis.

No witnesses have come forward to any attack and the police have found nothing. Scott, a father of two, is alive but is in a vegetative state. His family and friends continue to fundraise to give him some quality of life.

"The Danny Jones Defibrillator Fund" raises money to purchase defibrillators for community rugby league clubs and junior teams across the country.

These defibrillators cost around £1,000 each and provide potentially life-saving treatment to anyone suffering a cardiac arrest. The charity is named after the Halifax-born Wales RL international who died on the field whilst playing for Keighley Cougars on May 3, 2015 after suffering a cardiac arrest that was caused by a previous undetected, hereditary, heart disease.

Supporters can pre-order the publication and request to pick up in either Cardiff, Torfaen or Halifax. If pre-ordered by Friday, April 13, their name or organisation will appear in the inside cover.

Please go to https://www.walesrugbyleague.co.uk/magazine for more details and to order.

IG

Tennis Club smashes the start of summer season

LAST weekend, Barry Community Tennis Club hosted local rivals Penarth Windsor Lawn Tennis Club at Romilly Park for the first fixture of summer 2019.

The under-12 girls' teams, playing in the South Wales Team Tennis League (Division 2) met on Saturday afternoon where, after a wet and blustery week, the biggest issue with the weather was the brightness of the sun!

Playing for Barry CTC were Grace Mickelsen (11, Barry Island Primary) and Poppy Williams (12, St Richard Gwyn).

The girls had to play a full singles match each, followed by a doubles, and the home team won all three matches, securing a solid start to the season.

Grace has a lot of tennis experience (her mum Penny is the head coach and founding member of Barry Community Tennis Club, and involves Grace in a lot of her work with Judy Murray's 'She Rallies' initiative to get more women and girls involved with tennis), whereas this was Poppy's first-ever experience of an external competition, and her first full matches with a yellow ball.

Poppy's mum Alison (a teacher at All Saints' Primary, and doubles partner to Grace's mum) commented: "Playing in the match has boosted Poppy's confidence both on and off the court. She started the match nervous and worried that she wasn't good enough but by the end of the doubles match she had a beaming smile on her face and didn't stop talking all the way home. The next day she wanted to go back to the Romilly Park courts and play more tennis!"

The club also has teams at under-8, under-9 and ladies', and their summer campaigns start in a few weeks. If you'd like to find out more about the club, check out their social media accounts or turn up at one of the sessions where a coach or existing member will be happy to chat about what the club has to offer.

PM

Andrew Brown is the latest Ath centurion

PROP Andrew Brown became the latest Bridgend Athletic player to reach the 100 senior Athletic appearances mark in the Second XV WRU Conference 30-0 victory over Rhiwbina second XV.

Andrew has made 66 first XV appearances and 34 second XV appearances; 80 per cent of Andrew's senior appearances were made between seasons 2003-2008.

He played throughout 2003-2004 for the second XV alongside current Athletic player/ team manager Liam Griffiths, before being part of the first XV that gained promotion from the old Division 2 West to Division 1 West of the Swalec Leagues.

During those seasons Andrew played with the likes of Simon Mustoe, Robert Coles, Stuart Morris, Gareth Bartlett, Carle Ellis, Lee Grabham, Ian Hemburrow, Tom Hearne, Griff Davies and still current first XV stalwarts Wayne Fooks and Jonathon Stoker.

Andrew, although semi-retired, has always been willing to assist the club with front row emergencies. This season he has played five second XV games in the WRU Conference and last season helped the first XV on four occasions in Division 1 West Central as well as the game at Rhiwbina.

He started with the Ath at under-14 age group level and played for the Boys Club of Wales under-16 team, before playing his youth team rugby with the Athletic and progressing to the senior sides.

In his prime Andrew was also asked to play a game for Llanelli against Llandovery in the Swalec Cup.

AB

YMCA Barry young gymnasts enjoy success

YMCA Barry Gymnastics Club recently enjoyed a successful Women's Artistic grades final.

In the recent south central Wales area grade championships, six gymnasts from YMCA Barry qualified for the Welsh finals. The top five qualify to represent south central Wales against the other areas.

In the grade 5 category, eight-year-old YMCA Barry gymnasts Lottie Cummins, Nia Beasley and Katie Wong made up the majority of the team. The girls competed excellently with some fantastic results.

Lottie Cummins claimed third on Vault, fifth on Beam and ninth overall. Nia Beasley received sixth on Vault, on Beam and on Floor, and ninth overall and Katie Wong came a respectable 13th overall.

The three girls and their team mates succeeded in winning the bronze team medal.

In the grade 4 competition, nine-year-olds Rosie Jo Bishop, Gracie Jones and Ruby Clark competed superbly for south central Wales. This was the first time Ruby Clark had represented and she competed with great maturity and a high level of skill. Rosie Jo Bishop earned second on Vault, fifth on Beam and a fantastic fourth overall.

Gracie Jones had an amazing competition with fourth on Bars, fifth on Range, became the Welsh Grade 4 Beam and Floor champion as well as claiming second overall. Rosie, Ruby and Gracie, alongside their team mates, won the Silver team medal.

In the regional grade 3 competition, due to the complexity of the grade, the gymnasts do not have to qualify for the Welsh finals. From YMCA Barry, Roxy Frost and Lacey Williams competed and passed their grade with flying colours. Lacey Williams also became the Welsh grade 3 Vault champion. Another fantastic weekend for YMCA Barry Gymnastics Club.

Congratulations to all the gymnasts who passed their grade and to the dedicated coaches for these successes. YMCA Barry Gymnastics caters for all levels of gymnastics from Gymbabies and Gymtots, gymnastics for boys and girls from beginners to international, most recently having two gymnasts – Josh Cook and Iwan Mepham – representing Wales at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Would your child want to try gymnastics? For more information call 01446 724000, email sophie@ymcabarry.org.uk or follow us on social media @ymcabarry.

SE

New ladies captain Jo drives in at Brynhill

THE sun shone for lady captain Jo Kirkpatrick's drive-in at Brynhill Golf Club on Tuesday, March 26.

Ladies then played a fun 10 hole stableford David & Goliath four ball, better ball (with a twist) competition.

Once all the ladies were back in the clubhouse, the lady captain thanked everyone for their support.

The lady captain supplied a cheese and biscuits light buffet which the ladies gladly tucked into.

Durin her speech, the lady captain said that this fun competition would become an annual event. She again thanked her vice-captain Lisa Taylor for her hard work.

The lady captain also took the opportunity to thank Jan Tattersall who had generously half-funded the works to the ladies 16th tee.

Presentations then followed, with Linda Hewlett winning the drive-in and Lisa Taylor winning the nearest the pin. The winners of the David & Goliath competition on count back with 22 points were Claire Herbert and Rita Cook who each received a trophy, plant and chocolates.

Past winners received cash prizes and they were: 'March Hares' played on March 5 – winner Andrea Page with 15 points; 'Daffodil Galore' played on March 19 – winner Linda Hewlett with 16 points.

OT

Left to right: Lady captain and winners Rita Cook and Claire Herbert and the lady vice captain.

Lady captain Jo Kirkpatrick taking her first drive.

Lucky 13 for Vale Karate!

AFTER another fantastic season, Barry Leisure Centre-based Vale Karate earned no fewer than 13 Champions of Champions trophies at the finale to the Welsh Karate League season, which took place in Merthyr on March 24.

Vale instructors and newly-married couple Leah and Luke Howard took three champion's trophies between them, with Luke taking the Mens Kumite award and Leah earning her customary Ladies Kata and Kumite double!

Following in their illustrious footsteps, at the other end of the spectrum, both under-8 Kata events went to Vale Karate, as Angel Manayanai took the Girls trophy, and Vale's WUKF European Champion Jakob Bartush taking not only the Boys Kata trophy, but also the under-8 champions trophy in the newly-established Jukuren event.

The Jukuren category, newly-established in the Welsh Karate League to give young children confidence of competing in front of an audience and testing their ability, with youngsters demonstrating their sparring techniques on a standing punchbag.

Vale also shone in this category as alongside Jakob in the under-8s there was also a one-two in the under-10 advanced category in Elle-Mai Lee and Lloyd Beer and a one-two-three in the under-12 advanced event with Gregory James, Emillie Thompson and Talia Efstathiou all proud winners of trophies!

Elle-Mai and Lloyd were also the top two in the under-10 Advanced Kata, though on that occasion Lloyd took first place with Elle-Mai in second. Lloyd and Elle-Mai returned to Barry with an impressive haul of silverware as, with Max Riddick they also went on to win the under-10 team Kumite trophies!

For the third season, Bradley James was champion in the under-14 Special & Para Kata event, ahead of team-mate Connor Ashill, while the under-16 Shotokan Kata was another Vale tussle, as Danica Apologista took first place just ahead of team-mate Chiara Baker.

The final Vale Karate Champion of Champions trophy went to Alysha Lee who was victorious in the under-16 Girls Kumite.

Vale were, for the seventh straight season, the top Welsh club, but lost the overall club award for the first time, with the huge All-Style Karate Alliance Association from the Midlands acclaimed champions.

The new season starts in earnest on April 14 in Merthyr; for more information visit karate-league.wales and valekarate.com.

Lloyd, Elle-Mai and Max win under-10 team event.

A Vale one-two-three of Emillie, Gregory and Talia.

Open days at Murch Bowling Club

MURCH Bowling Club players are looking forward to the start of their bowling season on April 13.

The club has open days on April 13 and 20 and prospective members are welcome to come along, and try their hand at bowling.

The open days start at 2pm; bowls will be provided, just wear flat soled shoes. The club is at the end of Sunnycroft Lane in Dinas Powys. It will also give visitors a chance to enjoy the excellent facilities in our club house.

For more information, contact any of the following:

Cynthia Russell (president) 02920 513619; Graham Russell (treasurer) 02920 513619; Eileen Carryer (secretary) 02920 515568; Maurice Warman (men's secretary) 02920 512575.

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest?
Then get in touch with us - email
sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Sully Sports get ready for bowls open day

SULLY Sports Bowls Club men's section launches its 2019 season with an open day on Saturday, April 13, with a 2.30pm start at their clubhouse/green, South Road, Sully.

Don't worry if you are a novice, or have never bowled, free coaching is available to all newcomers.

The club practice, and hold team selection, on a Monday evening, and their main fixtures on Saturday afternoon are the Private Greens League, and the Carruthers Cup, with the Munro Cup fixtures played on Wednesday evenings.

Unfortunately, the ladies section has had to disband, due to insufficient numbers, but the club wishes every one of them well. The door is open to re-starting the ladies section if in the future there are enough ladies interested.

For more information contact Peter Holland (secretary) on 01446 622490 or Graham Brown on 01446 737274.

MS

Barrivale Bridge Club results

THE results for the Barrivale Bridge Club session on March 26 are as follows:

First, Reg Dyer and Ken Hannah, 63.10 per cent; second, Mick Green and Tim Barsby, 61.31 per cent; third, Denis Mottram and Jenny Vaughan, 60.12 per cent; the handicap winners were Hilary Laurence and Vivien Liles.

New members at the club are always welcome and a partner may be arranged, if required. If you would like to join us call any of the following numbers: 01446 418380, 01446 733425, 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

LH

'The Royal' is first Welsh golf club to receive conservation accolade

THE Royal Porthcawl has become the first golf club in Wales to obtain the GEO-Certification sustainability award after receiving valuable support from the Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) 'Dune 2 Dunes' project.

The 'Dunes 2 Dunes' project, funded by the Sustainable Management Scheme, which is supported by the Welsh Government Rural Development Programme and the European Union, is a collaboration of organisations, landowners, farmers and golf courses working together to sustainably manage the Bridgend county borough coastline.

The golf club has worked hard on the large-scale removal of degenerate gorse in order to reinstate open sandy areas and encourage coastal heather regeneration. Their mission has been a huge success and will lead to healthier coastal grasslands.

Staff at the golf club have also been proactive in creating and restoring habitats for Great Crested Newts – a European protected species – and have liaised with the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Group in order to improve conditions of the existing ponds located on the course. Birds including linnets, kestrels and yellow hammers can also be found there.

Cllr Charles Smith, BCBC's cabinet member for education and regeneration, said: "Congratulations to Royal Porthcawl Golf Club on achieving this international certification which is the sign of a great golf environment. The club has a clear commitment to nature, sustainability, coastal grassland protection and habitat restoration."

The Welsh Government Rural Communities Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and the Welsh Government.

Summer comes for senior golfers

ST Mary's Golf Club's senior section's summer season kicked off with a field of 30 taking to the fairways for the first White Tee Medal competition of the year.

The sky was overcast at the outset but the promised rain held off through the morning. With limited run on the ball, however, scoring proved to be modest.

New member Alun Powell once again demonstrated his aptitude for stroke play competition by securing third place with a net score of 74.

At the head of the leaderboard, two players were tied on net 73 but after a back nine countback, the victory was awarded to octogenarian Bob Coombes, with former captain, Hugh Williams, placed second.

Regrettably, bad weather set in for the remainder of the week and the section's scheduled first inter-club friendly fixture of 2019 against Dinas Powys Golf Club was rained off.

NL

Old Hall Bridge Club results

THE results from Old Hall Bridge Club for April 3 were:

First, Liam Sheridan and John Beard; second, Cathie and James Mangles. Visitors are always welcome.

TP

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Knap fishing competition donations help to pay for Barry man's funeral

OUR whole family would like to say a big thank you to everybody who attended the Martin Burke fishing competition at the Knap, Barry last week and to everybody who made donations towards the funeral costs.

The winner was Milo Bjegovic – well done!

It was a very enjoyable day and thanks also go to the people who were unable to attend, but still donated.

Thanks go to Robert Cole and his team at SWSA who, although they could not make the day, sponsored the event to ensure we had a safe and worry-free day and supplied score cards for all who competed.

David Llewellyn – thank you so much for everything you did behind the scenes, receiving donations from everyone, sorting out the raffle tickets and for your wise advice.

Further thanks to Holton Road and the other angling shops for their donations and help.

In total, from donations online, individuals and the competition, £2,000 was raised.

Robert and Jessica Wylie and Antony Burke.

Wales under-19s let down by handling against England

THE first quarter of this encounter between Wales under-19s and England under-19s saw both sides waste chances to get the scoreboard ticking over, until England were awarded a five-metre scrum on the 20 minute mark.

Scrum half Jonny Law found the whitewash, with the extra points added by full back Josh Hodge.

Wales had chances to score themselves but could only manage a penalty from outside half Josh Thomas before half-time. It was Wales that started the brighter in the second half, with prop Luke Yendle sneaking over for a try, the conversion added by Josh Thomas to give Wales a 10-7 lead.

That advantage was shortlived, though, with flanker Joe Howard sailing over from the restart, and Hodge again adding the conversion. The full back then added a penalty, before replacement Jack Clement crossed for England's third try; Hodge popped over the simple conversion.

No8 Morgan Strong hands off a defender - Photograph by James Kaye.

England then put the game out of reach of Wales, with Josh Hodge finishing off the best move of the match to score a fine try, he also added the extra points.

A late try for full back Harri Doel gave a little respectability to the final score, but Wales were guilty of making too many handling errors at crucial moments, and in the end England deserved the honours, on the day they were too clinical for a Wales side that fought to the final whistle.

Mike Sully

On and off the turf with Brian Lee

LLANCARFAN'S Isabel Williams and Merthyr Mawr's Jack Tudor both found themselves in the winners' enclosure at Ludlow on April 1.

Isabel rode her father Evan's *Burn Baby Byrne* to a one-and-a-half lengths win over *Mabela* in the Weatherbys TBA Mares' Handicap Hurdle and Jack, riding the seven-year-old *Hidden Charmer* in the Heath Farm Magnus Allcroft Memorial Open Hunter's Chase, won by three parts of a length from *Delegate*.

Hidden Charmer, a seven-year-old Irish bred bay gelding, is trained by former Welsh champion point-to-point rider Nick Williams at Ogmore-by-Sea. *Burn Baby Byrne* went off the 3-1 joint-favourite and *Hidden Charmer* was returned the 10-11 favourite.

Burn Baby Byrne was the second leg of a double for Evan Williams, who earlier had won the Templar Medical H4H Handicap Hurdle with *Court Royale* partnered by stable jockey Adam Wedge.

Six-year-old *Court Royale*, a 11-4 shot, won by one-and-a-half lengths from *SnapDragon*, ridden by champion jockey Richard Johnson.

DAVID'S LONG-PRICED WINNER

DAVID Prichard, 27 who hails from the Vale but who is now assistant trainer to Kayley Woolacott at South Molton in north Devon, was seen at his best at Taunton races on Thursday (April 4).

He landed the PontisPool Equine Sports Centre Maiden Hunters' Chase on Claire Hitch's 10-year-old *Im All Set* which beat the odds-on favourite Harriet Waight's *CoCo Live*, a winner of its last four races.

David, a three pound claiming jockey, got his mount home by half-a-length in an exciting finish and those who backed the horse were rewarded with odds of 16-1.

Claire Hitch trains at South Molton in north Devon which is near the Bratton Down Point-To-Point Racecourse.

Two other Welsh riders who had plenty to smile about at Taunton were Lorcan Williams and Alan Johns. Lorcan won on the legendary trainer Paul Nicholls' *Birds Of Prey* in the Muriel Bell Memorial Novices' Hurdle and Johns took the evening meeting Maiden Open National Hunt Flat Race on Tom Lacey's four-year-old *Capac*.

Bird Of Prey got home by a neck from *Barbados Blue,* ridden by another Welsh rider James Bowen, and *Capac* won by two-and-a-half lengths from *Bergamot*.

CHARLIE'S AINTREE SECOND

CHARLIE Price, a seven pound claiming jockey with Aberthin's Tim Vaughan, finished second on his *Point Of Principle***, a 25-1 outsider in the MerseyRail Handicap Hurdle at Aintree last Friday, April 5.**

Headed in the final furlong by the Irish-trained *Three Musketeers, Point-Of Principal* was beaten by one-and-three-quarter lengths but still earned his connections £15,900.

The winner, which was ridden by Jack Kennedy, received £42,202 for its efforts.

CONNOR'S SEDGEFIELD SUCCESS

THE Vale's Connor Brace just can't stop booting home winners.

Riding the top-weighted *Collodi*, which had finished runner-up in its previous three races, in the opening Alconex And Aqua Jet Annual Race Day Handicap Hurdle at Sedgefield last Friday, April 5 he got his 10-year-old mount home by three-and-a-half lengths from the lowly-weighted *First Of Never*.

Collodi,who is trained by Mr C Dore, went off the 2-1 favourite in a field of 10 runners.

FLINT STRIKES AGAIN

BRIDGEND trainer John Flint landed the M&M Green Haulage Handicap Chase at Ffos Las last Sunday with his 10-year-old course and distance winner *Lac Sacre***, which won by 12 lengths from the Evan Williams-trained** *Sutters Mill***.**

A 9-1 chance, *Lac Sacre* was ridden by Paddy Brennan.

Earlier in the day, Williams saw his *Flight To Milan* get beaten a head in an exciting finish by his fellow Vale trainer Tim Vaughan's *Chosen* in the Evans Race Handicap Chase.

Chosen, a 4-1 chance, was ridden by stable jockey Alan Johns.

Dai Rees's *Gone Platinum* under Lorcan Williams won the opening Llanelli Herald Handicap Hurdle coming home three-and-a-quarter lengths ahead of the Colin Tizzard-trained *Sizing At Midnight*.

Team effort leads Llantwit Major under-12s to victory

LLANTWIT Major RFC under-12s faced Penarth on Sunday for the second time this season.

The last game was in October when the game had to be stopped as Llantwit had conceded so many tries.

The team have had a turbulent season so far, having had no coach to lead them, but with the help from the under-10s coach, the manager and two of the dads, the team, led by captain Zak Grinter, went out determined to win. Working as a team and playing some beautiful passing rugby Llantwit saw themselves in the lead at half-time.

Everyone gave their all, determined not to let the win slip through their fingers as Penarth came back strongly in the second half. The Llantwit defence remained strong and the whole team dug deep to come away with a 31-26 win.

A fantastic morning of rugby. Well done all, you should be very proud of yourselves!

Team: Sean Edwards, Will Parfitt, Gethin Sykes, Jack Painter, Jack Dundas, Keiron Martin, Evan Sterckx, Jack Robson, Abbie Cutting, Ieuan Harrison, Tomos Parry, Zak Grinter, Reuben Hickman, Maison David, Dylan Marsh, Joseph Loveluck-Edwards, Harry Cook, Liam Lewis, Tom Price.

SH

Barry & District Mens Skittles League

DIVISION 1:

Geest 5, KP Rejects 0; Bunker Boys 271 (A Jeynes 29), 49ers 271 (R Bolt 33); British Rail 279 (B Smith 29), Blue Monkey 294 (C Holland 29); Sea View 352 (A Payne, A Elston 35), Billy Whizz 322 (C Alldred 34); Cannon Balls 304 (I Forsyth 30), Merrymen 289 (E Jones 32).

League table: 49ers 39, Geest 32, Bunker Boys 23, Blue Monkey 20, Merrymen 20, Posties 20, Sea View 19, British Rail 17, Willie Wombles 17, Billy Whizz 15, Cannon Balls 14, KP Rejects 14.

DIVISION 2:

BP Breakaways 257 (D E Coombes 29), H Bells 278 (B Howert 29); Mighty Dockers 258 (P Huggett 28), Exiles 264 (A Ladner 29); Ex-Servicemen 267 (A Kemp, D Kuhnell 27), Park Lads 271 (M Whyman Jnr, M Whyman Snr, D Summerell 27); Hairy Lemons 274 (J Birch 29), Tynny Lads 209 (S Germon 26); Colcot Boys 293 (B Sullivan 32), Cavaliers 289 (B Kilgour 30); Witchill Poachers 346 (R Ashby 35), Barry Park B 344 (P Gershenson 39).

League table: Park Lads 36, Cavaliers 28, H Bells 26, Hairy Lemons 24, Witchill Poachers 20, Barry Park B 20, Colcot Boys 18, Mighty Dockers 18, Exiles 17, Tynny Lads 17, BP Breakaways 14, Ex-Servicemen 14.

DIVISION 3:

Billy Bluebirds 282 (P Harris 26), Park Rangers 242 (T Power 31); Royalists 279 (C Iannucci, C Casado 29), Glenbrook Flyers 264 (D Everitt 30).

League table: Park Rangers 28, Billy Bluebirds 22, Castle Boys 20, Glenbrook Flyers 20, Royalists 19, Abercrete 18, Cocoa Nuts 18, Witchill Nomads 17, Alternatives 16, C.U.D. 10, Master Mariner 0.

View all results and league tables at barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

Vale of Glamorgan Bridge latest news

RESULTS for April 1 are as follows:

First, Stella Miller & David Barwood 62.05 per cent. Second, Tony Disley and Phil Felman 61.88 per cent. Third, equal Irene Thomas and Graham Jones and Linda Pinnock and Marjorie Morris with 57.71 per cent.

Results for April 8: First John Evans and Steve Burgoyne 67.21 per cent; second equal, Marjorie Morris and Linda Pinnock and Alan and Elaine Robins with 60.71 per cent.

LE

On and off the turf with Brian Lee

COWBRIDGE'S Byron Moorcroft won the open maiden race on Jason Warner's *Diplomatic* at Barbury Castle and at Andoversford, Matthew Barber was successful on Claire Jones's *Jungle Legend.*

JACK'S HEREFORD SUCCESS

Merthyr Mawr's Jack Tudor, age 16, won the Novice Riders' race at the North Ledbury Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases held at Hereford Racecourse last Sunday, April 7.

Riding 12-year-old *William Money*, owned and trained by David Brace OBE of the Dunraven Stud Farm, Pyle near Bridgend, *William Money* made nearly all the running to win easily by six lengths from *Cawdor House Bert* with the third horse *Bridge Of Spies* a further 30 lengths away.

Jack, whose father Jonathan Tudor was a notable amateur rider in his day, has now ridden four winners between-the-flags and a further three winners under Rules.

Another Welsh rider to boot home a winner was Carmarthen's Ben Jones, 19, who, riding *Princely Player,* drew away from the odds-on favourite *Undisputed,* partnered by Alex Edwards, at the penultimate fence to win by four lengths, clocking six minutes and 29 seconds, which was three seconds faster than *William Money* had taken to win the previous race.

Princely Player is trained by Karen Hobbs, who arrived at the racecourse just in time to declare her horse as its horsebox had broken down on the way.

National champion point-to-point rider Alex Edwards, aged 28, who rode 42 winners last season, brought this season's total number of wins to 22 when winning the Timico Mixed Open Race on the Philip Rowley-trained *Now Ben,* who won by six lengths from *Green Winter*. *Now Ben,* an 11-year-old chestnut gelding by *Benefical*, is owned by Mr WR Milner.

Ynysbwl's Bradley Gibbs' mount *Don Bersy* made most of the early running but eventually finished fourth of the six starters.

Pembrokeshire's Robert Luke was delighted with his five-year-old bay mare *Spark To A Flame*, who was making her racecourse debut and who came home a distance ahead of *Black Aphrodisiac* in the Jockey Club Open Maiden Race For Mares and Fillies.

Spark To A Flame was ridden by Zac Baker, age 24, who is based at Nigel Twiston-Davies' yard.

Bryan Carver from Cork, took the Five,Six And Seven-Year-Old Open Maiden Race on *Salven* who, always in a handy position, won by five lengths from the Tredegar Farmers-qualified *Samdibien*.

Carver also won the second division of the Four, Five And Six-Year-Olds Point-To-Point Flat Race on the four-year-old filly *You Too Bonny Lass* and Jack Tudor rode the runner-up *Sing The Anthem*, trained by his father and owned by The Anthem Partnership.

The First Division had went to the five-year-old bay gelding *Durouyn* partnered by Zac Baker who had earlier won on *Spark To A Flame.*

POINT-TO-POINT

The Llangeinor & Pentyrch Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases take place at the Dunraven Stud, Pyle near Bridgend, on Saturday and an exciting afternoon's racing can be expected.

Dunraven Stud owner David Brace OBE said last weekend that all going well he could run his multiple chase and point-to-point winner *William Money.*

There will be pony racing before the first point-to-point race takes place at 2pm.

Hole in one for new captain

MARCH saw golfers back in action Brynhill Golf Club,where the first competition of the new season is the Barry and District Cup, a four week eclectic event where the best score on each hole, over the four rounds, is totalled.

After week three, David Cunningham and new member Paul Thomas hold a commanding three-shot lead over Peters and Doyle with three pairs one shot further behind.

Sunday also saw new club captain Jaimie Griffiths score an hole in one on the par three 16th. **AS**

Centurions get ready for new season

SULLY Centurions Cricket Club begin the countdown to the new season with a pre-season friendly against neighbours Barry Wanderers, at the Wanderers' ground at Hayes Point.

The game is on Sunday, April 14, 2pm start. All players are reminded to let skipper Rhett Jones know their availability.

Mick Fisher

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

HOLTON Road lifted the Supporters Cup to complete the Division One League and Cup double.

They now look ahead to the SWFA Intermediate Cup semi-final as they chase a treble. Holton Road saw off Cadoxton Barry 3-2 on a glorious day at Jenner Park, Cadoxton Barry made Holton Road work for it with a great effort but the champions' class came through.

In the Premier Division, AFC Rhoose look odds-on to get the second place spot, they saw off Sully Sports 5-2 to go one point ahead of Cowbridge Town in third but with two games in hand.

Cowbridge moved third with an impressive 2-0 win away over Island Marine while Penarth Town remain fifth, but warmed up for the Barry Cup final in a few weeks, with a 7-2 thumping of bottom side St Athan.

In Division One, Cadoxton Imps all but secured promotion with an impressive 3-0 victory over Cardiff Airport.

The result sees Imps three points ahead of Tynewydd with both sides having one game remaining, however Imps have much superior goal difference. Tynny would have to hope Imps lose heavily in their final game and they win in double figures for any chance.

In Division Two, the title race is blown wide open. It's a three way race as St Athan B ended Barry Vikings seven game unbeaten run with a 2-0 victory.

Leaders AFC Rhoose B were held 2-2 by Barry Athletic B, so now Rhoose sit three points ahead of both Vikings and St Athan but Vikings do have a game in hand.

Penarth Town B gained pay back for a midweek defeat to Cadoxton Athletic in some style, as they thrashed them 8-1.

Finally, Vale Madrid saw off Island Marine B 2-0 to bounce back from cup final disappointment and closed the gap at the bottom on Marine B to two points.

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17 17 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 4Motion 5dr, VW warranty March 2020, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 11k, blue **£23495**

12 12 AUDI TT 2.0 TDI Black Edition Quattro 3dr, Bose, 19"alloys, grey, half-leather **£10995**

13 63 AUDI A5 2.0 TDI Quattro S-Line Coupe Automatic, sat nav, 19"alloys, heated seats, blue, full leather **£12495**

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16 16 AUDI Q7 3.0 TDI Quattro S-Line 5dr Tiptronic Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, white, half-leather **£37995**

15 65 AUDI Q7 3.0 TDI Quattro S-Line 5dr Tiptronic Automatic (7-Seater), BOSE, 21"alloys, sat nav, white, half-leather **£35995**

15 15 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr S-Tronic, sat nav, pdc, Bluetooth, heated seats, red, full leather **£19495**

15 15 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro Convertible Automatic, sat nav, comfort pack, heated seats, blue, full leather **£19495**

16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, heated seats, full leather, 11k, black, half-leather **£23495**

17 17 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty March 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 9k, black, full leather **£25495**

17 17 AUDI S4 3.0 TFSI Quattro 4dr Tiptronic Automatic, Audi warranty March 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, white, full red leather **£31995**

12 12 AUDI TT 2.0 TDI Black Edition Quattro 3dr, Bose, 19"alloys, grey, half-leather **£10995**

17 67 BMW 330 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, silver, full leather **£22495**

16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2019, M sport + pack, LED headlights, sat nav, 19"alloys, 20k, grey, full leather **£22995**

17 17 BMW 420 I XDrive Sport Gran Coupe 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 25k, grey, full leather **£20495**

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16 16 BMW X1 2.0 DXDrive M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty June 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 24k, met white **£18995**

16 66 BMW X1 XDrive D M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 18"alloys, 21k, blue **£19995**

16 66 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr 4x4, Ford warranty Dec 2019, appearance pack, 19"alloys, blue, half-leather **£13495**

14 14 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI SE Premium 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 36k, black, full leather **£15495**

16 16 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI BlueDrive Premium SE 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty July 2021, sat nav, pan roof, heated seats, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 20k, silver with full leather **£20995**

16 66 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI BlueDrive Wiggins Edition 5dr 4WD Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Dec 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 23k, white, full leather **£22995**

17 17 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRD BlueDrive Premium 5dr 4WD (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Feb 2022, sat nav, reverse camera, 15k, choice, full leather **£19995**

16 16 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRDI Premium SE 5dr 4WD Automatic, Hyundai warranty May 2021, sat nav, pan roof, 16k, black **£18995**

16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRD Premium 4WD 5dr Automatic, Hyundai warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 18k, grey, full leather **£18795**

16 66 INFINITI QX30 2.2 D Premium Tech 5dr DCT Automatic, Infiniti warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 21k, grey, full leather **£18995**

17 17 JAGUAR F-PACE 2.0 D Prestige 5dr Automatic AWD, Jaguar warranty April 2020, sat nav, 24k, blue, full leather **£27995**

15 65 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 25k, white, full leather **£17495**

16 65 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.0 MultiJet Limited 5dr 4WD, sat nav, cruise, 22k, black, full leather **£15995**

16 16 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet II Night Eagle 5dr Automatic AWD, sat nav, cruise, 24k, grey, full leather **£18495**

17 67 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 12k, black, full leather **£22495**

14 64 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, reverse camera, dab, grey, full leather **£17995**

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16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T GDI GT-Line AWD 5dr, Kia warranty Aug 2023, sat nav, 19"alloys, full leather, 20k, white **£16495**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T-GDI GT-Line 5dr Automatic AWD, Kia warranty Sept 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 24k, black, full leather **18495**

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-4 AWD 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, 23k, choice, full leather **£18495**

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16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI First Edition 5dr AWD Automatic, Kia warranty Oct 2023, pan roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 24k, white, full leather **£20995**

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13 63 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D All4 5dr, Privacy glass, Bluetooth, aux, usb, 30k, silver **£9495**

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15 65 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech Match Edition 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, 18"alloys, cruise, blue **£13995**

15 65 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech R-Line 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, sat nav, cruise, 31k, white, full leather **£16995**

16 16 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech Edition 4Motion 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, 25k, blue **£14995**

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech R-Line 4Motion 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, VW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, 20"alloys, heated seats, white **£23995**

17 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT 150 4Motion SE Nav 5dr DSG Automatic, VW warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise, 16k, white **£21995**

16 66 VW TOUAREG 3.0 TDI V6 BluemotionTech 262 R-Line 5dr Automatic 4WD, VW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, pan roof, 18k, white, full leather **£25495**

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16 16 BMW 118 2.0 D M Sport 5dr, sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, 27k, white **£13995**

15 64 BMW M135i 3.0 M Sports 5dr automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, 34k, orange, full oyster leather **£16995**

16 16 BMW 218 ISE 2dr Convertible, BMW warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, pdc, 17k, red **£13995**

12 62 BMW 318 DSE 4dr, 18"alloys, heated seats, dab, black, full leather **£8995**

12 62 BMW 318 D M Sport 4dr, cruise, privacy glass, white, full leather **£10495**

15 65 BMW 320 D BluePerformance Plus 4dr Automatic, sat nav, sport seats, black, full leather **£13995**

16 66 BMW 320 D M Sport GT 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, pro sat nav, heated seats, cruise, silver, full leather **£15495**

16 66 BMW 420 D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, heated seats, choice, full leather **£19495**

16 66 BMW 430 D M Sport Gran Coupe Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2019, pro sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, black, full leather **£19795**

16 16 BMW 430 D M Sport 2dr Automatic, M sport + pack, body kit, sat nav, reverse camera, individual san marino blue, full leather **£25995**

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18 18 BMW 520 I M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty July 2021, sat nav, xenons, cruise, 15k, white, full leather **£26495**

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18 67 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, Fiat warranty Feb 2021, pan roof, cruise, Bluetooth, pdc, 9k, blue **£8495**

17 66 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost 140 ST-Line 3dr, Ford warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise, 11k, choice **£9495**

18 67 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost ST-Line 3dr (New Model), Ford warranty February 2021, sat nav, 17"Alloys, Bluetooth, 9k, black **£11795**

16 65 FORD FIESTA 1.6 EcoBoost ST-3 3dr (180bhp), sat nav, heated seats, xenons, 14k, white, half-leather **£11795**

16 66 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDCI Titanium 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, aux, usb, 20k **£8795**

16 65 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Zetec S 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, aux, usb, blue **£9995**

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Titanium X Estate, Ford warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 17"alloys, 29k, black, half-leather **£12495**

14 64 FORD FOCUS 2.0 ST-3 5dr, heated seats, dab, 32k, white, full leather **£12995**

16 65 FORD GRAND C-MAX 2.0 TDCI Titanium X Navigation 5dr (7-Seater), pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 6k, blue **£15495**

16 66 FORD KUGA 1.5 T EcoBoost ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty Jan 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 23k, white, half-leather **£16495**

15 15 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Econetic Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, dab, aux, black **£8295**

16 16 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Zetec Estate Automatic, sat nav, cruise, grey **£11495**

17 17 HONDA CIVIC 1.5 VTEC Sport 5dr (180bhp), Honda warranty April 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 23k, blue **£14995**

16 16 HYUNDAI i30 1.6 CRD SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty March 2021, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, red **£8795**

15 65 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive SE Nav 5dr, Hyundai warranty until Jan 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 27k, choice **£12995**

18 68 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive Go SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 3k, white **£19295**

16 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D (180) R-Sport 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather **£18295**

17 17 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D 180 Portfolio 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty March 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, white, full leather **£20495**

16 66 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI 2 4dr, Kia warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, silver **£12495**

17 66 KIA PICANTO 1.25 Sport 5dr, Kia warranty Feb 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 8k, black, half-leather **£8995**

15 65 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 2 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Dec 2022, pan roof, cruise, 11k, choice, half-leather **£12795**

17 67 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 3 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Sept 2024, pan roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 19k, blue, full leather **£17995**

15 65 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 ED4 SE 5dr, contrast roof, privacy glass, white, full leather **£20995**

17 17 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 D Sport Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty April 2020, sat nav, BOSE, cruise, 21k, grey, full leather **£17995**

15 65 MERCEDES A180 1.5 CDI Sport 5dr Automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, 35k, silver **£13795**

16 16 MERCEDES A200 2.2 D Sport Executive 5dr, sat nav, blue, full leather **£13795**

18 67 MERCEDES C300H AMG Line Hybrid 4dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Feb 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, silver, 6k, full leather **£24995**

16 16 MERCEDES C350 E Sport Premium Plus Estate Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, grey, full leather **£21995**

16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 D AMFG Line Coupe Automatic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, cruise, 30k, white, half-leather **£19995**

14 64 MINI PACEMAN 1.6 D COOPER Coupe, chilli + tlc pack, 17"black alloys, 30k, white **£9495**

16 16 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Acenta Premium 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 25k, white **£9995**

15 15 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr, pan roof, cruise, privacy glass, grey **£11995**

17 67 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr Xtronic Automaic (7-Seater), Nissan warranty Oct 2020, pan roof, cruise, 9k, blue **£16995**

16 16 PEUGEOT 308 1.6 BlueHDI 120 Active 5dr, sat nav, cruise, pdc, 19k, black **£8995**

17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE Energy Expression + 5dr, Renault warranty Nov 2021, Bluetooth, cruise, 6k, black **£10295**

18 68 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE 90 Iconic 5dr, Renault warranty Oct 2022, sat nav, Bluetooth, 5k, red **£12495**

17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Dynaique 90 S Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, cruise, pdc, Bluetooth, 10k, grey **£11995**

17 17 RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.6 DCI Energy Dynamique Nav 5dr (7-Seater), Renault warranty July 2021, sat nav, 20"alloys, 34k, blue, half-leather **£13995**

16 65 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S 5dr, Renault warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, 19"alloys, cruise, 19k, choice **£11995**

17 17 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S Nav 5dr Automatic, Renault warranty March 2021, sat nav, 19"alloys, cruise, 15k, grey, half-leather **£14795**

17 67 SEAT ALHAMBRA 2.0 TDI CR Ecomotive SE (150) 5dr (7-Seater), Seat warranty Dec 2020, cruise, Bluetooth, choice from **£17495**

17 67 SEAT LEON 1.4 TSI 125 FR Technology 5dr, Seat warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 8k, choice from **£12795**

18 67 SEAT LEON 1.4 EcoTsi FR Technology Estate DSG Automatic, Seat warranty until Feb 2021, sat nav, cruise, met grey **£12995**

17 67 SKODA KODIAQ 1.4 TSI Editon 150 5dr DSG Automatic (7-Seater), Skoda warranty Nov 2020, pan roof, sat nav, heated seats, 8k, brown, full leather **£24495**

16 66 SKODA OCTAVIA 2.0 TDI SE-L 5dr, Skoda warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, black **£11295**

16 16 SUZUKI VITARA 1.6 SZ-T 5dr, Suzuki warranty Aug 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, dab, 25k, red **£10995**

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17 67 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI Elite 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, 20k, silver, full leather **£11295**

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18 18 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 T White Edition (150) 3dr, Vauxhall warranty July 2021, air-con, cruise, white **£11295**

16 66 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI 170 SRI VX-Line 5dr Automatic, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2019, 19"alloys, sat nav, cruise, 22k, black **£12295**

16 16 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 Exclusive 5dr, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, choice **£7995**

08 08 VW BEETLE 1.4 Luna 3dr, electric windows, alloys, 25k, beige **£3795**

16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5dr, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, white **£14295**

16 66 VW POLO 1.4 TSI ACT Blue GT 3dr, VW warranty Dec 2019, electric glass sunroof, Bluetooth, cruise, choice **£11295**

17 67 VOLVO V40 2.0 T3 (152) R-Design Pro 5dr, Volvo warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, 18k, choice **£14495**

18 68 VOLVO V40 2.0 T3 (152) R-Design Nav Plus 5dr, Volvo warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, red, only 239 miles, half-leather **£16995**

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16 65 AUDI A1 1.6 TDI Black Edition 5dr, pan roof, cruise, white, half-leather **£12995**

16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5dr, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, white **£14295**

18 18 VOLVO S90 2.0 D4 R-Design 4dr Automatic, Volvo warranty March 2021, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 6k, **£22995**

16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 S 6dr Automatic, Mini warranty Dec 2019, chilli + JCW pack, Media – sat nav, pan roof, **£17995**

15 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 29k, choice, full leather **£12995**

15 15 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, air-con, choice **£5295**

18 18 AUDI A4 AVANT 2.0 TDI Ultra SE Estate, Audi warranty May 2021, sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, Blue- **£21995**

17 66 TOYOTA AVENSIS 1.6 D-4D Active 4dr, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, 16k, choice **£10995**

17 67 HYUNDAI IONIQ 1.6 GDI Hybrid SE 5dr DCT Automatic, Hyundai warranty Nov 2022, reverse camera, cruise, **£15795**

16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Connecta 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, choice **£11495**

15 65 ABARTH 595C 1.4 T-Jet 140 2dr, Bluetooth, electric hood, DAB, 16k, red **£9995**

15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 5dr, chilli + tlc pack, cruise, Bluetooth, 14k, choice, half-leather **£10995**

16 65 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D (180) Portfolio 4dr, pan roof, head up display, sat nav, reverse camera, 30k, bronze, full leather **£16995**

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65 VW POLO 14TDi SE 5dr in white, 29,000 miles, FREE Road Tax **£8,995**
62 NISSAN QASHQHI 1.6 N-TEC in titanium grey, 50,000 miles.....**Reduced by £500 to £8,495**
16 CITROEN C4 Flair Blue 1.6 HDi 5dr in black, 24,000 miles, 1 owner.....**£8,495**
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59 JAGUAR XFS 3.0 TDV6 Premium Luxury Auto black with black leather, 86,000 miles **£7,995**
16 PEUGEOT 308 ALLURE 1.2 5-dr in met blue, 59,000 miles, 1 owner, high spec **£7,995**
14 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4SE AUTOMATIC Met grey, 30,000 miles, 1 owner.....**£7,995**
59 MERCEDES C2.20CDi Blue-Efficiency Sport Auto met grey, 66,000 miles, excellent MPG **£7,495**
16 PEUGEOT 208 1.2 XS (Lime) 5dr in black, 32,000 miles, 1 owner **£7,495**
62 HYUNDAI i40 Style Blue Drive 1.7 Diesel Estate In met blue, 65,000 mile sat nav etc.....**£7,295**
65 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 EXITE 3dr in black, 22,000 miles, 1 owner.....**£6,995**
57 MERCEDES C180 SPORT AUTO in met grey, 53,000 miles, very nice example.....**£6,995**
16 FIAT 500C LOUNGE TWINAIR CONVERTIBLE in red with black leather, 50,000 miles, 1 owner **£6,995**
15 DACIA DUSTER 1.5 Diesel Laurette in white, 57,000 miles, 1 owner.....**£6,995**
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63 VAUXHALL Astra 2.0 CDTi SRi 5-Dr In ice blue, 45,000 mile .....**Reduced by £1,000 to £5,995**
64 SEAT IBIZA 1.6CR TDi FR 3dr in red, 58,000 miles, £30 road tax **£5,995**
63 KIA Rio 2 1.2 3-Dr In silver, only 11,000 miles from new ....**Reduced by £1,000 to £5,995**
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13 RENAULT CLIO 1.0 DYNAMIQUE NAV 5-Dr in black, 44,000 miles **£5,995**
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13 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE 2 1.2 5-dr in black, 32,000 miles, low insurance **£4,495**
12 FORD KA 1.2 ZETEC In met grey, 27,000 miles, low insurance.....**£4,495**
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Busy end to season for chess clubs

THIS is the start of a very busy and important period for the Barry Chess Club.

Over this and the next two weeks we have 10 matches to play and at the end of this period we will probably know the fate of all our teams!

On the Monday there were two home games with the Camelots playing probable Division 2 champions the Cardiff Monarchs, with the Stauntons playing possible wooden spoon contenders, Pentyrch D.

The Camelots were outrated on four of the boards. We picked up draws from Dave Parsons and Ken Hannah. Tom Cooke picked up a win against identically-rated Gavin Jones.

A 3-2 defeat for the Camelots leaves them comfortably in fifth place, while the Monarchs secured their promotion back to Division 1.

Of note, the Camelots moved above the Caerphilly Castles who have picked up just a half point from three matches.

In Division 4, Dave Mahoney, Ray Denyer, Ieuan Thomas and Sian Balchin all recorded wins to give the Stauntons a 4-1 victory against Pentyrch D.

This has temporarily lifted the Stauntons above the Gambits into second place in the table.

Therer was not such a good result for the Gambits away to the Cardiff Cavaliers as we returned home with draws from Sam White and Peter Watkins.

The 4-1 defeat means the Gambits remain in seventh place, relatively secure from relegation with three games to play. In an unusual situation the Gambits host the Cavaliers next week.

In the top division the Bosons played their weather-delayed match away to the Pontypridd Barbarians.

The Barbarians have had good results against Barry teams over the past few years and so it was to continue.

Steve Cunliffe won on board 2 with Matthew Davies getting a draw on top board so we lost 3.5-1.5. The Bosons remain in ninth place but five points from safety with only three games to go.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30 pm each Monday at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

Phil Jones

Barry Beavers' March round-up

MARCH started off as a quiet session due to February half-term, but those who attended were able to work on their badge work skills.

Also Nadiene and Nicholas were able to take on the responsibility of helping swimmers develop some of the Halliwick skills while in the water. Pat and Linda were doing the timings for the gala with some of the gala swimmers including Nadiene and Nicholas.

On March 2 Nadiene and Nicholas went to the Bleanua Gwent Otters Swimming Club to see how they run their club session with Chris and Pat. Both of them also participated in the running of the session with some of the younger swimmers, helping them develop some of the Halliwick skills and gaining their badges.

On March 21 the club ran their second safeguarding course at the Civic Offices, which was run by Cath, and on March 31 the club held their Halliwick workshop at Barry Leisure Centre.

There were members from Rhonnda Polar Bears, Gwent Dolphins and more who attended and took part in the session. All who attended appeared to enjoy the workshop and went back with a better understanding of the Halliwick concept.

NC

Got a sports story? Email sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

All pictures by Judith Dutton - see more at glamorgan-gem.co.uk/sport.

Barry RFC's promotion hopes take a massive knock after away defeat

BARRY RFC travelled to Cilfynydd last Saturday in a vital clash with the promotion hopes of both sides resting on the result.

As it was, the home side took the spoils with Barry having some consolation by earning a losing bonus point.

With so much at stake, this was always likely to be a fiery encounter and so it proved to be with Cilfynydd winning 27-22.

The game began with both sides moving the ball and testing each other out. Barry got off to a perfect start when, from a break from defence, they split the Cilfynydd ranks, feeding the ball to Danny Ryan who crossed wide out for an unconverted try.

Stung by this early setback the home side found themselves in the Barry 22 following some loose kicking.

They took advantage of both the referee and the situation to cross for a controversial try and conversion to take a 7-5 lead.

Minutes later, a lapse in concentration at a scrum allowed the home No 8 to cross unopposed, this time for an unconverted try.

Needing to get back in the game Barry worked their way over the line, with the referee deciding the ball was held up. The resulting scrum saw Barry awarded a penalty which Kyle Barross duly converted

Unfortunately, Barry were to suffer a further setback minutes later as a series of errors left them losing a potential attacking position and finding themselves in their own 22 having to defend.

While initially holding the Cilfynydd lineout drive, the pressure told and the try was conceded. It went converted, but importantly gave Cilfynydd a lead of 17-8 as the half drew to a close.

Cilfynydd added to their score on the restart as Barry were penalised at a scrum. Following the successful kick, the whistle ended the half with Barry not deserving of the 20-8 deficit.

Barry started the second half strongly and a chargedown could have provided an early score. They maintained the pressure, forcing three quick penalties, as Cilfynydd defended their line but were unable to get the breakthrough they needed.

The home team weathered this storm and now it was Barry's turn to concede penalties with territory lost.

Once inside the 22, Cilfynydd made Barry pay as a lineout drive saw the ball moved infield to create space for a converted try and a 27-8 lead.

The Barry heads, to their credit, didn't drop and they worked their way into the 22. Taking the ball on they again got close but couldn't get the break they needed.

Their patience paid off finally as the backs linked well to create space for Brad White to cross for a try, with Kyle Barross getting the conversion and Barry were now back in the game.

Things got even better minutes later as a three-quarter move saw full back Dylan Robertson come into the line and slice through for the try which Kyle Barross again converted and the score now stood at 27-22 with minutes to go.

Try as they might, Barry were just unable to get the final try which could have won the game as Cilfynydd held out until the final whistle.

It was a case of what might have been for Barry as they were the architects of their own downfall in the first half.

Full credit, however, to the team for their second half fightback which could have produced a win with a little more luck.

The fight for promotion goes on with Barry still in the mix with four games to play. Last night (Wednesday, April 10) they were due to travel to Aberdare and this Saturday play away at Heol Y Cwy, kick off 2.30pm.

Next Wednesday, April 17, they travel to Llanharan for a 7pm kick off, with the final league game away at Taffs Well on Saturday, April 20.

The club lottery rolls over to £4,100 this week after last week's numbers of 05, 07, 14 and 19 failed to find a winner. Two tickets matched three numbers to claim the £10 prize.

AJ

Barry and District League tables and results

CRIB DIVISION 1:

Rhoose Social 10, Cadoxton Cons 5; Moors Boys 8, Liberals 7; West End 8, Wyndham Cons 7.

League table: Rhoose Social 176, Wyndham Cons 168, Liberals 164, Cadoxton Cons 159, West End Runaways 158, West End 156, Moors Boys 144.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

Slammers 6, Barries Boys 1; Liberals A 1, Sea View Exiles 6; Rhoose Social B 1, Rhoosters 6; Allsorts 7, King William XII 0; Cambrian Flyers 5, Barry Town FC 2; Rhoose Social A 5, Liberals C 2; West End D 3, Rugby Club 4; West End C 5, Barry Town FC 2.

League table: Sea View Exiles 122.0, West End D 112.0, West End C 110.0, Allsorts 101.0, Rhoose Social C 100.0, Rugby Club 98.5, Barry Town FC 98.0, King William XII 95.0, Rhoosters 94.0, Slammers 86.0, Rhoose Social A 83.5, Barries Boys 65.0, Rhoose Social B 64.0, Liberals C 63.5, Liberals A 62.5, Cambrian Flyers 45.0.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1:

Cadoxton Wildcats 2, Wyndham Cons A 3; Penarth Cons A 4, Market Street B 1; Rhoose Social B 1, Harbour B 4; Savoy A 4, Cadoxton Cons B 1; Liberators 0, West End C 5.

League table: West End C 92, Savoy A 88, Harbour B 82, Wyndham Cons A 71, Cadoxton Cons Z 64, Cadoxton Cons B 62, Penarth Cons A 50, Rhoose Social B 43, *Liberators 39, Cadoxton Wildcats 37, Market Street B 35.

SNOOKER DIVISION 2:

West End B 2, Wyndham Cons D 3; Penarth Cons B 3, Cadoxton Cons A 2; Rhoose Social C 3, Sully Sports A 2; West End A 1, Savoy B 4; Harbour A 1, Market Street C 4.

League table: Savoy B 75, Rhoose Social C 74, Cadoxton Cons A 72, Penarth Cons B 72, Market Street C 67, *Services Social B 67, Wyndham Cons D 63, Harbour A 56, West End A 50, Sully Sports A 48, West End B 39 (* = points deducted).

View all results and league tables at barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

Barry Ladies Skittles League results

THE results for Barry Ladies Skittle League for March 25 are as follow:

Division 1: Family & Friends 244 (R Cummings 27) v Cigar Ladies 238 (A McCarthy 25); Fallen Angels 258 (T Lawrence 27) v Bakers Dozen 292 (K James & S Howe 29); Family Affair 253 (S Vincent 26) v Allsorts 259 (C Newall 30); Sea View Gals 262 (C Gaffney 27) v Pila Pala 248 (S Bennett 29); Barry Stars 241 (C Lambeth 26) v Coppers 215 (D Nesbitt 25); Cadoxton Con Fillies 222 (T Dyball 26) v Special Angels 236 (L Mountford & P Grisdale 26).

Division 2:

Red Admiral 222 (S Hayes 27) v Breakaways 228 (B Thurston 26); Roller Coasters 227 (S Spry 26) v Persuaders 198 (K Kemp & M Whitehurst 22); Witchill Weebies 314 (Y Searle & R Royle 31) v Colcot Ladies 332 (P Ralphs 32); Airways Angels 230 (E Jones & J Nash 24) v Rugby Triers 260 (R Hooper 28); Clickies 239 (J Williams & K Watt 29) v Rhoose Starlights (K Bryan & L Davies 24); Bandits 196 (K Marshall 28) v Bobby's Girls 250 (A Selson & S Snelson) 25.

Division 3:

Witchill Widows 283 (A Bird 29) v Dolly Mixtures 259 (L Marsh 29); Hillbillies 321 (M Brinkworth 34) v Sea View Ladies 297 (R Leach 32); Witches 241 (L Carey 29) v Little Devils 256 (T Jones 32); Off the Rails 251 (I Rosser 27) v Uptown Girls 323 (J Hawkins 25); Merry Makers 195 (S Lewis 24) v Etcetera 213 (R Dyke 25).

Division 4:

Little Misfits 213 (K Davies 29) v Optimists 177 (H Ball 24); Socialites 201 (P Todd 25) v Aristocats 171 (M Rogers 23); Twilights 214 (S Haysom & C Thomas 24) v Witchill Wanderers 187 (V Kerslake & G Peplow 24); Odd Bods 197 (T Ceriani & K Breen 25) v Rebels 202 (L Spurr 29).

THE results for April 1:

Division 1:

Cigar Ladies 268 (A McCarthy 28), Fallen Angels 246 (T Lawrence 27); Bakers Dozen 266 (R Hewitson, B Martin & M Lewis 27), Family Affair 257 (S Evans 28); Allsorts 282 (S Harford 31), Cad Con Fillies 281 (S Chilcott 28); Coppers 298 (J Hartnell 31), Space Finders 265 (K Jackson 30).

Division 2:

Bobby's Girls 248 (A Seldon 25), Red Admiral 257 (H Selby, G Williams, S Clements 26); Breakaways 262 (V Martin 29), Roller Coasters 248 (T Saunders, M Pratt, B Maffey & G Marriott 24); Rugby Triers 241 (T Cogbill 24), Witchill Weebies 224 (M Rogers & P Harnett 22); Rhoose Starlights 240 (R Green 26), Challengers 244 (D Collard 29).

Division 3:

Sea View Ladies 227 (G Davey 28), Witches 181 (Y Curnow 21); Uptown Girls 233 (J Cosslett 29), Witchill Widows 192 (L Spyrou 19); Etcetera 239 (M Jones 30), Off The Rails 288 (J Cattle 24); Westenders 250 (T Stait & M Condon 26), Liberals 248 (A Boyd & R Keene 27).

Division 4:

Optimists 211 (H Ball 26), Bimbo's 222 (S Lewis 26); Nite Outers 230 (K Blackmore 31), Twilights 216 (C Sims, S Davies & C Thomas 22); Rebels 217 (A Phillips & L Spurr 22), Hell Raisers 177 (C Davies, M.Davies & J Rosser 26).

If any teams would like to enter the Barry & District Ladies Skittles Summer Cup, could they please call 07823 490291 and pay the registration at the next meeting on May 13.

HB

Action heats up at bowling club

WITH a couple of catch-up matches being played during the week in rainy conditions, it was nice to see all of the rinks in use in the sunshine on Saturday for rounds five and six of Rhoose Bowling Club's Australian Pairs competition.

League leaders Dave Kendall and Mike White are still at the head of the pack, leading by just one point over Gary Williams and Nick Parry. These two pairings meet in the first match of this Saturday's series of matches.

Visitors are welcome to visit the club at their Celtic Way ground on Saturday to enjoy watching the games, with the first match scheduled for 1pm.

BS

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It's time to get those passports ready… Barry Town United are back in Europe!

BARRY Town United will play European football next season for the first time since July 2003, after Gavin Chesterfield's men stormed back from two goals down to earn a landmark 5-2 win at Bala Town on Saturday.

With their victory at Maes Tegid securing a top three finish in the JD Welsh Premier League, the Jenner Park outfit have sensationally booked their ticket to the UEFA Europa League qualifiers, with three WPL fixtures still to play.

However, the fight for Europe might have gone to the wire were it not for a stunning Barry fightback at the weekend, as three goals in the space of the seven second-half minutes emphatically turned the game at Bala on its head.

At the start of play on Saturday, Barry knew they needed to better the result of fourth-placed Newtown to shore up third position, with the Robins playing host to champions-elect The New Saints over at Latham Park.

As Barry and Bala embarked on a competitive and evenly-matched first-half, news soon filtered through that TNS had taken a seventh-minute lead via Aaron Edwards, meaning that a point would now be enough for Barry to lock down their coveted European place.

By half-time, the situation looked nervously promising for the travelling Town team and their enthusiastic support, with Ryan Brobbel doubling the TNS lead in Newtown and Barry on terms at the break in Bala.

Just 45 minutes from European football, few can have imagined the drama that would follow.

While Barry had enjoyed several chances, with Kayne McLaggon firing over the crossbar and captain Jordan Cotterill shooting just wide, the second half saw Bala turn up the heat on Mike Lewis and his Barry defence.

After 52 minutes of action, the Lakesiders found their breakthrough, with Anthony Stevens' left-footed cross whizzing across the Barry penalty area, allowing Chris Venables to head in, three yards from the goal line.

Seven minutes later, Barry were 2-0 adrift, with Kieron Smith lashing the ball beyond goalkeeper Lewis from near the penalty spot, after Curtis Watkins had initially headed away Chris Seargeant's inquisitive in-swinger.

Two down by the hour mark, Barry's hopes of securing their European return looked to have been put on hold.

However, the defiant Cotterill, on his 150th appearance for the Jenner Park club, offered new hope in the 64th minute; the skipper digging in, cutting inside and then beating Bala goalkeeper Ashley Morris, after a sublime pass from Mo Touray had unlocked the hosts' defence.

With full-back Paul Morgan a second-half casualty, Barry boss Chesterfield rolled the dice on teenager Evan Press and the youthful substitute justified his manager's faith with an effective showing, as the tide of the contest continued to turn.

In the 68th minute, Touray pitched in with another astute pass, allowing McLaggon to throw his man a dummy and midfielder Clayton Green to collect high on the left flank.

Green's ball into the danger zone forced Morris into a low save, before McLaggon showed his striker's nous to follow up from close range, making the score 2-2 and putting Barry's Eurostar train back on its tracks.

By this stage, TNS had gone three ahead, meaning a draw would be enough for Barry to qualify, should they be able to close things out with a precious point intact.

What happened next instead sent the Barry faithful wild, as Chris Hugh seized the ball with aplomb and strode upfield, before playing in teammate Touray inside the Bala Town area with a pitch-perfect pass.

Eyeing the prize, Touray then showed classic composure to slot home, putting Barry in front for the first time and sending supporters scrambling for their passports.

It would get even better for Barry in the final 15 minutes, as McLaggon nipped in front of Morris to meet a Hugh free-kick up field, before rounding the goalkeeper and sliding the ball into an empty net.

Substitute Drew Fahiya then rounded off a remarkable comeback with Barry's fifth in the 89th minute, side-footing in with gusto and celebrating accordingly, after terrific Touray had served up another key pass.

Barry will now embark on a first European adventure since the end of the professional era, a huge feather in the cap for Chesterfield, his team behind the scenes and the players whose efforts have made this achievement a reality.

Barry next entertain a TNS side closing in on the title, which they will hope to clinch at Jenner Park this Saturday night (7.30pm).

AC

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